The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS
Information Bulletin

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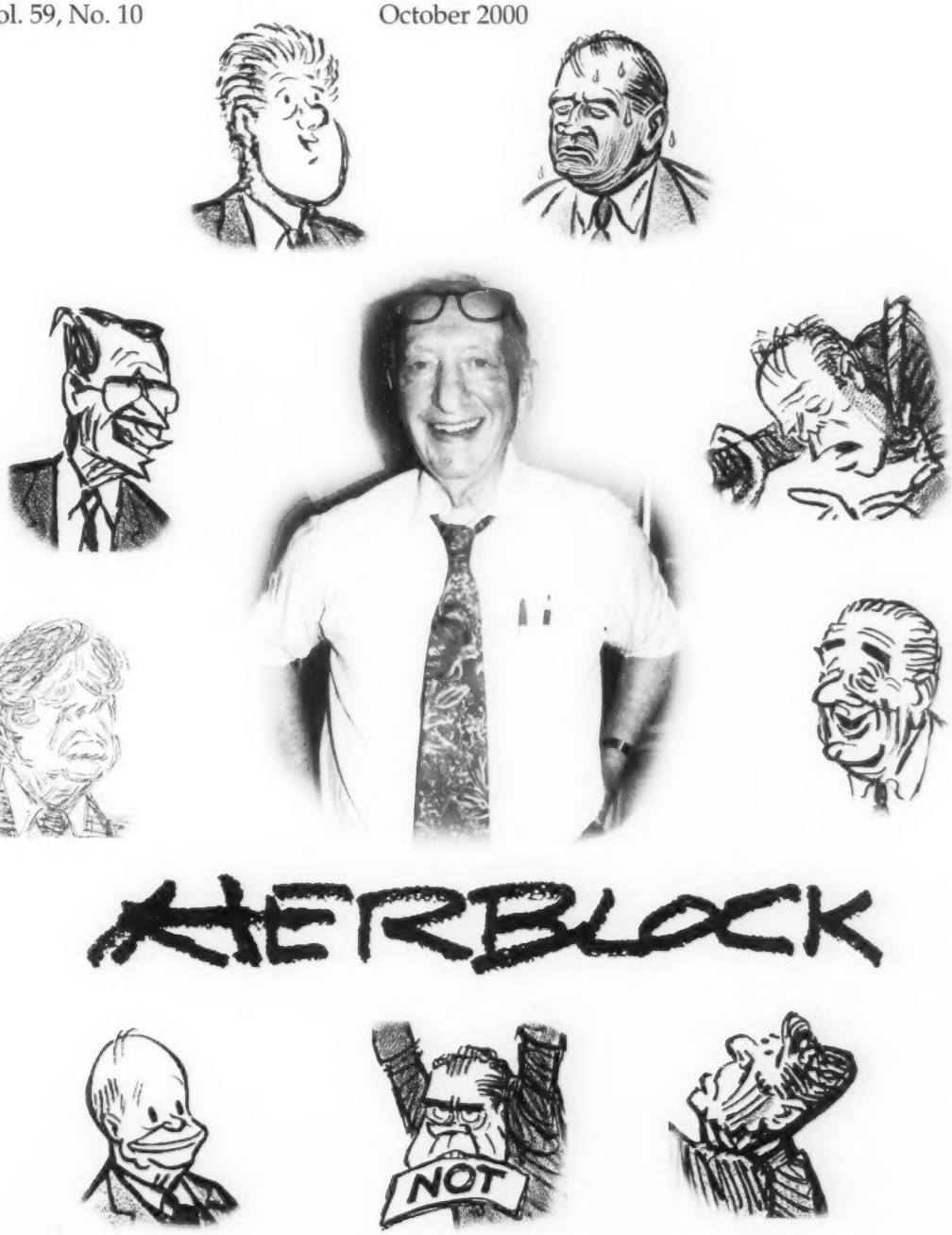

Herblock's History: Political Cartoons from the Crash to the Millennium

The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS
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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL
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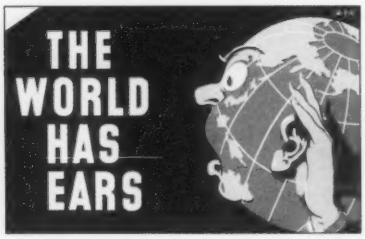
LIBRARIES • CREATIVITY • LIBERTY

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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On the Cover: Herbert Block (Herblock) has depicted the famous and the infamous during the course of his more than 70 years as an editorial cartoonist.

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The Library of Congress *Information Bulletin* (ISSN 0041-7904) is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available on the World Wide Web at **www.loc.gov/today**.

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Designer

Washington's Diaries Available Online

Library and University Press Offer All 51 Diaries

The Library of Congress, the University Press of Virginia and the Papers of George Washington at the University of Virginia have released online *The Diaries of George Washington* on the American Memory collections Web site at **www.loc.gov**. This release provides the first electronic publication of the work of the Founding Fathers Papers Projects, established by President Truman in 1950.

George Washington's diaries (1748-1799) offer a unique window into the daily life of the most celebrated founder of the United States. Unlike Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and Benjamin Franklin, Washington kept a daily diary for much of his life, from his first surveying trip in 1748 until Dec. 13, 1799, the day before his death. The Library of Congress Manuscript Division houses 37 of 51 known diary volumes and diary fragments. The published documentary edition, *The Diaries of George Washington*, edited by Donald Jackson and Dorothy Twohig, includes transcriptions of some 2,300 diary entries, annotated by nearly 600 notes, 300 bibliographic entries on which the notes are based and 375 illustrations. A one-volume abridgment, edited by Ms. Twohig, was published in 1999. The American Memory presentation makes all these materials available to the public as searchable text and as bitonal and grayscale page images.

The Diaries are one of six series in the documentary edition *The Papers of George Washington*, available at **www.virginia.edu/gwpapers** and published by the University Press of Virginia (**www.upress.virginia.edu**).

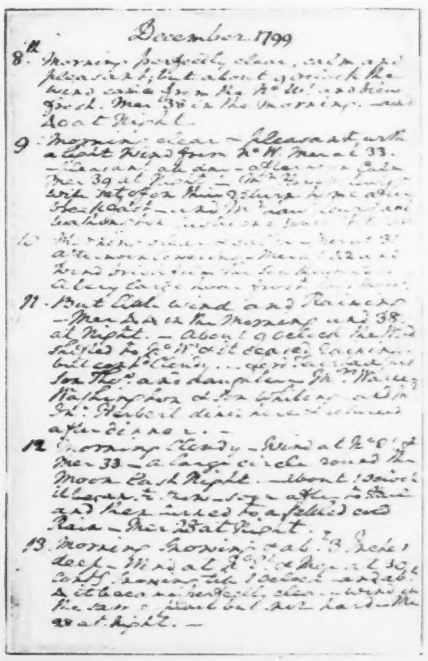
The documentary edition provides diary introductions and annotations that identify all persons mentioned in the texts, explains their relationship to Washington and his activities and are often accompanied by portrait reproductions. The editors have identified the slaves and white artisans Washington employed on his farms, as well as the plants, crops, implements and mechanical devices with which he experimented. Historical background about major events in Washington's life clarifies and enriches the significance of the diary texts. The volumes feature a variety of maps and illustrations.

Portrait of a young George Washington by Charles Willson Peale

During the course of his life, Washington kept many different kinds of diaries: travel diaries; diaries devoted to specific events; and, most consistently, daily diaries of weather, work and events at Mount Vernon and his various farms. He kept diaries during his visit to Barbados in 1751-52 with his half-brother Lawrence, who was seeking to recover his health; and for his expeditions to the Ohio River region in 1753-54, during the preliminary phases of the French and Indian (or Seven Year) War. He began his Revolutionary War diary at Yorktown in 1781 and lamented "not having attempted it [keeping a diary] from the commencement of the War." Significant diaries for Washington's presidency in 1789-1796 survive in the form of journals of presidential tours of New England in 1789 and of the South in 1791.

Washington began keeping daily diaries of his life at Mount Vernon by 1760. Mount Vernon became his property in 1758, and eventually it consisted of five separate farms. Washington was devoted to its expansion and development, and the "diaries are a monument to that concern," as the editors of the documentary edition note. Often kept in the blank pages of published Virginia almanacs, Washington's entries record family, neighborhood and local events; weather; and, most important, his transition from planter to farmer, from his early frustrating efforts with the cash crop tobacco to a commitment to diversification and production for a domestic market and his abiding interest in experimentation with the latest agricultural methods. Shortly before his death, Washington was drafting yet another plan for crop rotation and new farming operations.

A five-part introduction to the *Diaries*, included in the Web presentation, provides interesting background on these fascinating documents as well as on the man himself:



December 1799

8th. Morning Snowdy clear, calm, & pleasant; but about 3 o'clock the Wind came fresh to the N.W. & blew hard with Snow all the Night. Mercy 30 at the Morning. and 28 at Night.

9 Morning clear — pleasant with a light Wind from N.W. Mercy 33. — Carpenters at the Barn — Ditchers & Gardiners as yesterday. Mercy 39 at Night. — [illegible] with Mr. Peter Thompson & Mr. Alexr. Henderson — and Mr. Dalton came to dinner. [illegible]

10 Mr. Peter Thompson & Mr. Alexr. Henderson left me after breakfast — Mercy 32 at Night. — Carpenters at the Barn — Ditchers & Gardiners as yesterday. [illegible]

11 But Cold Wind and Freezer — Mercy 28 in the Morning and 28 at Night. — About 9 o'clock the Revd. Mr. Weems came to dinner, but could not stay — Mrs. Washington & Miss Custis went to the Ball at Alexandria — Mr. Lund Washington & Mrs. Forbes dined with us and returned after Candle light.

12 Morning Cloudy — Rid. out at 1/2 past 8 o'clock — Mercy 33 — a large circle round the Moon Last Night. — About 1 o'clock it began to Snow — rain — Hail & Snow by turns — and then turned to a settled Rain — Mercy 32 at Night.

13. Morning Snowing — at 8 o'clock Mercy 31 — at 9 it was 32 — at 10 it was 33 — Snowing till about 1 o'clock & then a cold sleety rain — which turned to Snow — and continued so all the day & Night — Mercy 29 at Night. —

The original manuscript page from the diary Washington kept during 1799, the last year of his life.

• **Washington as a Diarist**. That Washington's diaries were important to him there is no doubt. When in the spring of 1787 he journeyed to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia and discovered that he would be away from Mount Vernon for many weeks, he wrote home for the diary he had accidentally left behind. "It will be found, I presume, on my writing table," he said. "Put it under a good strong paper cover, sealed up as a letter."

• **The Worlds of Washington**. As he rode about Mount Vernon on his daily inspection trips, Washington could turn his eyes frequently to the shipping traffic on the Potomac River, his principal link with the great outside world. Now and then his commercial representatives in London, Robert Cary & Co., would err and place his shipment aboard a vessel bound for another Virginia river, such as the Rappahannock. He once warned the Cary company never to ship by any vessel not bound for the Potomac, for when a cargo via the Rappahannock finally reached him, he found "the Porter entirely Drank out."

• **Washington and the New Agriculture**. No theme appears more frequently in the writings of Washington than his love for his land. The diaries are a monument to that concern. In his letters he referred often, as an expression of this devotion and its resulting contentment, to an Old Testament passage. After the Revolution, when he had returned to Mount Vernon, he wrote the Marquis de Lafayette on Feb. 1, 1784: "At length my Dear Marquis I am become a private citizen on the banks of the Potomac, & under the shadow of my own Vine & my own Fig-tree." This phrase occurs at least 11 times in Washington's letters. "And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree" (2 Kings 18:31).

• **The Weather Watch**. Washington's preoccupation with the weather was clearly an extension of his needs and interests as a farmer. He was not a scientific observer, as was Jefferson, and his weather records are irregular in scope and content. If he was not scientifically accurate, he was at least persistent. On April 30, 1785, when he was unable to record the weather personally because of a trip to Richmond, he put Mrs. Washington in charge of the thermometer. "Mercury (by Mrs. W's acct.) in the Morning at 68—at Noon 69 and at Night 62."

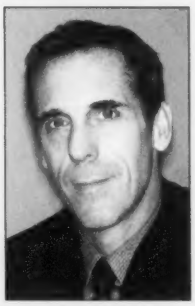
• **History of the Diary Manuscripts**. Washington's earliest diaries were kept in notebooks of various sizes and shapes, but when he began in earnest to make daily entries he chose to make them in interleaved copies of the *Virginia Almanack*, a Williamsburg publication. By the end of the Revolution he had grown accustomed to the blank memorandum books used in the army, and he adopted a similar notebook for his civilian record. By 1795 he had gone back to his interleaved almanacs. Ruled paper was not available to Washington, and he obtained regularly spaced lines by using a ruled guide-sheet beneath his writing paper. "This practice gives us evidence of his failing vision, as the diaries, after the Presidency, show frequent examples of his pen running off the outer edge of the small diary page, and whole words, written on the ruled guide-sheet beneath, escaped notice of not being on the diary page itself," according to John C. Fitzpatrick, an earlier editor of *The Diaries of George Washington, 1748-1799* (Boston; New York, 1925).

The definitive transcriptions, introductory essays and rich annotation provided by *The Diaries of George Washington* offer a unique opportunity to explore the thoughts, activities and historical world of one of the nation's founders. The online presentation of these materials now makes them fully searchable and available to a much wider audience.

American Memory is a project of the National Digital Library Program of the Library of Congress. The Web site now offers more than 5 million historically important items of American history, in collaboration with other institutions. More than 80 American Memory collections are now available in topics ranging from presidential papers and photographs from the Civil War, to early films of Thomas Edison and panoramic maps, to documents from the women's suffrage and civil rights movements. ◆

Roosa New Preservation Director

BY GAIL FINEBERG



Mark Roosa (right), chief of the Library's Conservation Division since 1998, has been named the Library's director for preservation, a position that will be key to the Library's future digital preservation efforts. He will direct the work of some 200 staffers in the Preservation Directorate, which consists of five divisions—Conservation, Binding and Collections Care, Research and Testing, Preservation Reformatting, and Photoduplication Services—as well as the Mass Deacidification Program and the U.S. Newspaper Program.

Mr. Roosa and others in the Library have been studying recommendations in the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report, *LC21: A Digital Strategy for the Library of Congress*, many of which, he said, were "very direct and accurate." "The top priority of the Preservation Directorate for the next 18 months will be to focus on digital preservation issues. Part of that process will be to develop a strategic digital preservation plan for the Library," Mr. Roosa said.

He emphasized that this effort will involve digital technology experts throughout the Library as well those in the private sector, education and academia. "We want partners who play significant roles in preserving the universe of digital information," he said.

Mr. Roosa holds degrees from the University of Minnesota and the University of California, Berkeley. He received postgraduate certification in preservation administration from Columbia University. He is a past participant in the Library's Mellon Preservation Intern Program and has held preservation positions at the University of Delaware and the Huntington Library. ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newsletter.*

Reference 24/7

Libraries Test Collaborative Digital Reference Service

The Library of Congress and 16 other libraries have begun testing an online reference service that will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to users worldwide. This unique partnership, known as the Collaborative Digital Reference Service (CDRS), will be the first of its kind to connect users with accurate, timely and credible information anytime anywhere through an international, digital network of libraries and related institutions.

"As currently envisioned, CDRS combines the power of local collections and staff strengths with the diversity and availability of libraries and librarians everywhere," said Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services. "Through this service, there will always be a librarian available to provide to users located anywhere the interchange and experience of trained assistance in providing access to collections and resources both analog and digital. This unique collaboration, which we have been working on since the fall of 1999, is in keeping with the recent recommendations by the National Research Council study commissioned by the Library of Congress. Digital partnerships are a crucial part of knowledge navigation in the 21st century."

The first "live" question was posed on June 29. This reference inquiry—regarding ancient Byzantine cuisine—was sent by a participating public library consortium in London. The request, which was received by the CDRS server at the Library of Congress in Washington, was matched based on subject matter, depth of detail and time of day, and routed to the Santa Monica Public Library at 10:40 a.m. Several hours later, a list of five books was on its way to London. During its first month of "live" testing, the member institutions exchanged more than 300 questions, creating a virtual reference desk spanning three continents and 15 time zones.

Current members are: Library of Congress; Santa Monica (Calif.) Public Library; Morris County (N.J.) Public Library; Suburban Library System (Chicago area); Peninsula Library System (San Mateo County, Calif.); Metropolitan Cooperative Library System (Los Angeles area); AskERIC; the National Library of Canada; the National Library of Australia; the Smithsonian Museum of American Art; Cornell University; the University of Minnesota; the University of Texas at Austin; Vanderbilt University; the University of Washington; EARL: The UK Public Library Consortium; and the University of Southern California.

On a local, regional, national and global scale, the tradition of libraries to provide value- added service will be the CDRS hallmark. This reference service will apply the best of what libraries and librarians have to offer: organization, as well as an in-depth subject expertise, for the universe of unstructured and unverified information on the Internet. Using new technologies, the service will enable member institutions to provide the best answers in the best context, by taking advantage not only of the millions of Internet resources but also of the many more millions of resources that are not online and that are held by libraries.

"With CDRS, the Library of Congress and its partner libraries can begin to bridge the gulf that exists between providers and users of information," said Diane Kresh, director for Public Service Collections at the Library of Congress and director of CDRS.

The CDRS is currently testing the second of three pilots. Public beta testing began October 17, 2000. Details about these pilots and other aspects of the CDRS can be found at the project Web site at **www.loc.gov/rr/digiref**. ◆

GlobalCenter Hosts 'America's Library' Site

On Aug. 24, GlobalCenter Inc., a Global Crossing Ltd. subsidiary and leading Internet services company, began providing free hosting services for the Library of Congress's newest Web site, "America's Library," available at www.americaslibrary.gov.

America's Library debuted on April 24, the 200th birthday of the Library of Congress. The site, intended for children and families, has handled more than 20 million transactions as of the end of August.

"The Library thanks GlobalCenter for its generous gift in hosting this new and important Web site," said Dr. Billington. "America's Library is our first site designed for a specific audience, children, who we hope will use the site with their friends and families to learn about American history in a fun and interesting way."

"GlobalCenter is delighted and honored to play such an integral role in sharing America's Library with children and adults of the U.S. and the world," said Leo Hindery Jr., chairman and CEO of GlobalCenter.

GlobalCenter's gift to the Library was announced during a news conference on April 24. In addition to providing complex Web hosting services, GlobalCenter has donated the hardware necessary for the site's maintenance.

The America's Library Web site is supported by a public service campaign sponsored by the Advertising Council, with creative services donated by DDB Chicago. Television, radio and Web ads, whose theme is, "There is a better way to have fun with history. ... Log On. Play Around. Learn Something," have been distributed to more than 9,000 media outlets nationwide.

The Advertising Council is a private, nonprofit organization that has been the leading producer of public service communications programs in the United States since 1942. The Council supports campaigns that benefit children, families and communities. The communications programs are national in scope and have generated strong, measurable results. Ad Council

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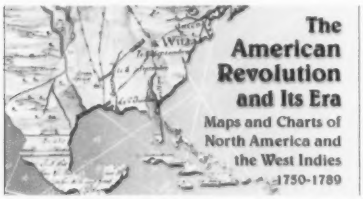
New in American Memory

New Collections Include Posters, Maps, Photos, Music

Several collections of interesting and rare materials relating to American history have just been added to the award-winning American Memory collections available from the Library of Congress at **www.loc.gov**. These new collections have been added to the more than 80 already freely available from American Memory, which is a project of the National Digital Library Program of the Library of Congress. By the end of 2000, the program will bring more than 5 million items of American history to citizens everywhere through the Internet.



"**The American Revolution and Its Era: Maps and Charts of North America and the West Indies, 1750-1789**" represents an important historical record of the mapping of North America and the Caribbean. There are more than 2,000 maps and charts in this collection; almost 600 maps are original manuscript drawings. Users can compare versions of several of the most important maps of the period, follow the development of a particular map from the manuscript sketch to the finished printed version and its foreign derivatives, and examine the cartographic styles and techniques of surveyors and map makers from seven countries: Great Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Holland, Italy and the United States.

"**Band Music from the Civil War Era**" makes available examples of a brilliant style of brass band music that flourished in the 1850s in the United States and remained popular through the 19th century. Bands of this kind served in the armies of both the North and the South during the Civil War. This online collection includes both printed and manuscript music (mostly in the form of "part books" for individual instruments) selected from the collections of the Music Division of the Library of Congress and the Walter Dignam Collection of the Manchester Historic Association (Manchester, New Hampshire). The collection features more than 700 musical compositions, as well as eight full-score modern editions and 19 recorded examples of brass band music in performance.

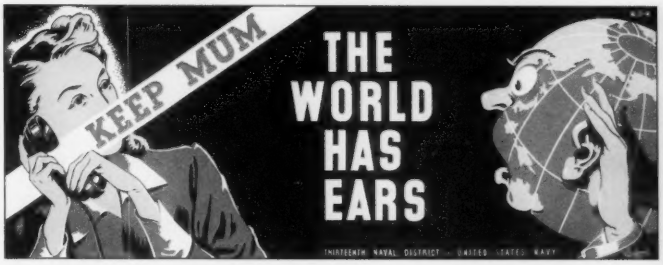
"**Florida Folklife from the WPA Collections**" is a multiformat ethnographic field collection documenting African American, Arabic, Bahamian, British American, Cuban, Greek, Italian, Minorcan, Seminole and Slavic cultures throughout Florida. Recorded by Robert Cook, Herbert Halpert, Zora Neale Hurston, Stetson Kennedy, Alton Morris and others in conjunction with the Florida Federal Writers' Project, the Florida Music Project and the Joint Committee on Folk Arts of the Work Projects Administration, it features folk songs and folktales in many languages. The online presentation provides access to 376 sound recordings and 106 accompanying materials, including an essay on Florida folklife by Zora Neale Hurston. "Florida Folklife" is made possible by the generous support of the Texaco Foundation.

Also during this period, approximately 2,000 posters were created by artists working for the WPA. The Library's collection of 907 is the largest. This assemblage of striking artworks, diverse in their design as well as subject matter, is featured in "**By the People, for the People: Posters from the WPA, 1936-1943**." The Web presentation showcases those silkscreen, lithograph and woodcut posters designed to publicize health and safety programs; cultural programs including art exhibitions and theatrical and musical performances; travel and tourism; educational programs; and community activities in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The posters were made possible by one of the first federal government programs to support the arts and were added to the Library's holdings in the 1940s.

The site also offers three "Special Presentations":

- *Collection Highlights.* These posters were selected by Library staff who have worked closely with the WPA posters. The posters were selected with an eye toward their design, representation of a variety of U.S. states and artists and as a way of featuring those posters that have not been widely published. The presentation is

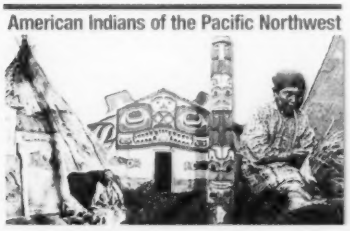
From the WPA poster collection online at American Memory.



divided into seven subjects.

- *Interview with WPA Silkscreen Artist Tony Velonis.* This brief conversation with Mr. Velonis, who discusses his WPA experiences, took place in 1994, when the Library hosted the symposium on the WPA called "Amassing 'American Stuff': The New Deal Arts Collections of the Library of Congress." The interview can be seen and heard.
- *Federal Art Project Calendar.* This calendar was created by the New York City Poster Division in 1938 to show government officials the skilled artistic work the Federal Art Project was doing for the WPA. The Library received a copy of the calendar as a gift in 1975.

Two collections of materials relating to the American West have also been added. The digitization of these materials was made possible by the Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition. During its three years, this program, which concluded with the 1998-99 round of award winners, provided funds to 33 institutions across the country to digitize their collections and make them available on American Memory as well as on their own Web sites. Ameritech donated $2 million to the Library for the competition.



The first collection, "**American Indians of the Pacific Northwest,**" contains more than 2,300 photographs and 7,700 pages of text relating to the American Indians in two cultural areas of the Pacific Northwest, the Northwest Coast and Plateau. These resources illustrate many aspects of life, including housing, clothing, crafts, transportation, education and employment. The materials are drawn from the extensive collections of the University of Washington Libraries, the Cheney Cowles Museum/Eastern Washington State Historical Society in Spokane and the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle.

The presentation also includes 10 illustrated essays on specific tribal groups and on cross-cultural topics, written by anthropologists, historians and teachers who have studied the rich heritage of Pacific Northwest Native Americans.

The other collection is "**History of the American West, 1860-1920: Photographs from the Collection of the Denver Public Library,**" drawn from the institution's Western History and Genealogy Department. The more than 30,000 photographs illuminate many aspects of the history of the American West. Most of them were taken between 1860 and 1920 and illustrate Colorado towns and landscapes, the importance of mining in the history of Colorado and the West and the lives of Native Americans from more than 40 tribes living west of the Mississippi River.

Also available are special presentations on "Native American Women"; "The 10th Mountain Division," ski troops who were based in Colorado and saw action in Italy during World War II; and photographer "L.C. McClure and Denver, the City Beautiful." ◆

More examples from the WPA poster collection now available online at American Memory.

Host
continued from page 229

campaigns, such as "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk," "Take A Bite Out of Crime," and "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste," have helped to save lives and resources, to educate the public about issues and concerns of the day and to make America a healthier country in which to live.

"America's Library" is a project of the Library of Congress's Public Affairs Office and the National Digital Library Program, and was designed by 415 Productions Inc. of San Francisco.

By the end of 2000, the flagship American Memory Web site (www.loc.gov) will offer more than 5 million historically important items, in collaboration with other institutions. More than 80 American Memory collections are now available in topics ranging from presidential papers and photographs from the Civil War, to early films of Thomas Edison and panoramic maps, to documents from the women's suffrage and civil rights movements. ◆

Celebrating Literacy

Children and Celebrities Call Attention to Reading

BY GUY LAMOLINARA

More than 300 cheering kids and their parents greeted Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersee, entertainer Ben Vereen and children's book character Franklin the Turtle on the plaza of the Madison Building on the morning of Sept. 8.

They were gathered to kick off International Literacy Day, an annual event that calls attention to the importance of improving literacy skills worldwide.

As the kids from local schools arrived, they were greeted by volunteers who gave them Franklin hats and T-shirts before they were escorted to makeshift seating—green carpet squares laid out on the plaza before a stage. Before the program began, Ms. Joyner-Kersee and Mr. Vereen mingled with the crowd, including Library staffers and their children and signed autographs. Television crews from FOX, CNN, WETA and WGBH-Boston recorded the festivities; *The Washington Post* sent a photographer.

John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, which co-sponsored the event with 12 other international organizations, such as the International Reading Association, UNESCO and the World Bank, welcomed participants to "a wonderful day for promoting literacy and reading around the world."

The event was part of a day of activities at the Library; it was followed by an awards ceremony, information booths and exhibits from the 13 sponsoring organizations, a luncheon and an afternoon panel discussion, on "Literacy in the Information Age."

Steve Sunderland, of Sears' District Office, a sponsor of the event, reminded attendees that this celebration has been held annually for the past 33 years to "make sure literacy remains a top priority in our lives." He then presented Mr. Cole with a full set of the 26 Franklin stories.

Paulette Bourgeois, who was there with her illustrator, Brenda Clark, told the audience that "I don't think there is anything more exciting for an author or an illustrator than seeing children read your books."

Ms. Bourgeois told the children that "reading takes you to a different place. You are not just holding beautiful pictures and words. You are holding a ticket to a whole new exciting world."

A full-day celebration of International Literacy Day at the Library on Sept. 8 began with a program on the Madison Plaza for preschoolers that featured celebrities Jackie Joyner-Kersee and Ben Vereen. Sponsored by the Center for the Book and 12 partner groups, the day included awards, exhibitions and a panel discussion on literacy.

Then Ms. Joyner-Kersee and Mr. Vereen read the first Franklin book, Franklin in the Dark, to the children as they sat among them.

Then it was time for Franklin to take the stage. Most of the children were delighted. But at least one child was frightened by the sight of a turtle the size of an adult. "It's just a person dressed up as a turtle," said a mother to comfort her child.

The kids read along as Ms. Joyner-Kersee and Mr. Vereen alternated reading the story of a young turtle who is afraid of getting inside his dark shell.

The event concluded with Franklin and his other furry friends performing a brief concert before departing.

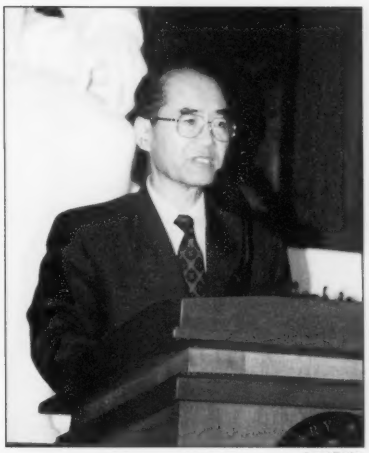
Meanwhile, inside the building, in Madison Hall, preparations were being finalized for the program to present the International Literacy Award.

Mr. Cole, standing at a lectern in front of the heroic statue of Madison, noted that "it is appropriate to have this event here. The Library of Congress is not only the nation's library. It is a world library, with nearly half its collections in foreign languages in all media."

The director-general of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), which has held International Literacy Day since 1967, Koichiro Matsuura, echoed Mr. Cole: "It is particularly appropriate to celebrate National Literacy Day in one of the greatest libraries in the world. America's early leaders knew that learning and the availability of books are essential to a free society.

"Illiteracy is still a fact of the 21st century for too many children and too many adults," he added. UNSECO estimates that 880 million adults throughout the world, two-thirds of them women, do not know how to read or write, and that more than 113 million children do not have access to adequate education.

Illiteracy had been a fact of life for 47 years for David Clemons of Washington, D.C., who told how he "could not even read everyday signs. Someone had to read them to me. But my



Janet Butler

Koichiro Matsuura, director general of UNESCO, at International Literacy Day 2000 at the Library of Congress.

mother had the same" experience. In 1994, Mr. Clemons suffered an injury that prevented him from doing physical labor. He was forced to learn to read to gain new employment. Since then, "I have learned to love to read."

Carmelita Williams, president of the International Reading Association, then announced that the International Literacy Award for 2000 would go to the Adult Literacy Organization of Zimbabwe. She also said that an honorable mention would be awarded to the Program of Adult Literacy and Basic Education in Nicaragua.

"Recognizing the Adult Literacy Organization of Zimbabwe's project brings international attention to the importance of global adolescent and adult literacy efforts," she said. The program was commended for "mobilizing a large number of people and organizations to meet the functional learning needs of illiterate and semi-illiterate adults, particularly those living in rural and commercial farming areas of Zimbabwe."

More than 150 people attended the final event, an afternoon panel discussion in the Mumford Room on "Literacy in the Information Age." The moderator was Ronald S. Pugsley, director of the U.S. Department of Education's Division of Adult Education and Literacy. The principal speaker was Albert Tuijnman, of the Institute of International Education in Stockholm, Sweden, and the author of the newly released report *Benchmarking Adult Literacy in America: An International Comparative Study* (U.S. Dept. of Education, 2000). Mr. Tuijnman presented the highlights of the study, a 57-page monograph that draws on the database developed by

continued on page 255

To Preserve and Protect

Symposium on Stewardship of Cultural Resources

In affiliation with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC), the Library of Congress will sponsor on Oct. 30-31, "To Preserve and Protect: The Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Resources," a two-day Bicentennial symposium for directors and administrators of libraries, museums, and archives who oversee preservation and collections security programs.

Participants will learn how colleagues are handling concerns related to setting standards, using measurements, and justifying budgets for funders. Plenary and breakout sessions have been designed to enable participants to explore issues that overlap and lend themselves to complementary solutions. Experts in the cultural heritage community will lead sessions on:

- Discussing the challenges that confront the stewards of our nation's cultural heritage;
- Developing preservation and security strategies, priorities, and expectations;
- Measuring the effectiveness of preservation and security programs;
- Coping with theft, vandalism, deterioration, and bad press;
- Building the preservation and security budget and successfully promoting the program;
- The preservation and security challenges of electronic information and digitization;
- Innovations in security and preservation; and
- Cooperating nationally and internationally to preserve and secure collections.

Participants will be able to share experiences during lunches provided both days, and at a reception the first evening. Tours of the art and architecture of the magnificently restored Thomas Jefferson Building and other areas of the Library of Congress of interest to symposium participants will be available.

Invited program speakers include Nancy Cline, Harvard University; Werner Gundersheimer, Folger Shakespeare Library; Winston Tabb, Library of Congress; Jeff Field, National Endowment for the Humanities; Lynne Chafffinch, Federal Bureau of Investigation; James Reilly, Image Permanence Institute; Clifford Lynch, Coalition for Networked Information; Maxwell Anderson, Whitney Museum of American Art; Deanna Marcum, Council on Library and Information Resources; Jan Merrill-Oldham, Harvard University; Jim Neal, Johns Hopkins University; Nancy Davenport, Library of Congress; Camila Alire, Colorado State University; and Nancy Gwinn, Smithsonian Institution.

For more information, visit the Library of Congress Bicentennial Program Web site at **www.loc.gov/bicentennial/symposia.html** or contact Kathy Eighmey, project coordinator, at (202) 707-4836. Registration information is available online at **http://db.arl.org/pp**. ◆

American Memory Fellows Institute

NDL Learning Center Hosts Annual Gathering

BY SUSAN VECCIA

During the last two weeks of July, visitors to the National Digital Library Learning Center would have found themselves surrounded by a sea of busy educators. Who were they, and what were they doing?

They were the Library of Congress American Memory Fellows for the year 2000. They came from elementary, middle and high schools in 23 states for a week in Washington to learn about primary sources and how to incorporate them into their teaching. Focusing mainly on the American Memory historical collections (**www.loc.gov**), these teachers and school media specialists had a whirlwind tour of the Library of Congress—both physically and virtually.

Now in its fourth year, the American Memory Fellows Program provides a yearlong professional development opportunity for teams of teachers, librarians and media specialists. Though much of the work takes place in their own schools, the cornerstone of this program is the summer institute, which is held in Washington. For the first time, the entire program was offered at the Library of Congress in the newly refurbished National Digital Library Learning Center. This year, the "Class of 2000" was split into two weeklong sessions. The first session was for grades 4-8 educators; the second session was for 9-12 educators.

Linda J. White

Staff of the American Memory Fellows Institute, who worked during the second week of the program, included instructors from inside and outside the Library of Congress.

An important part of the unique American Memory Fellows experience at the Library is the opportunity to meet with curators from the special-collections divisions. This year, the visits to the Prints and Photographs, Geography and Map, and Rare Book and Special Collections divisions allowed the fellows to see some of the rare American historical materials held within these divisions and to learn about reference procedures for each division and how some of these materials are digitized and incorporated into American Memory collections. Fellows were both awestruck and inspired by the depth and breadth of the Library's resources.

One American Memory Fellow remarked that as he looked at some of the maps, he was so excited that his hands were shaking. Another noted that "seeing some of the treasures of the Library of Congress ... in person is one of the strongest memories I will have of the institute."

Another Fellow commented on the variety of materials held in the Library. "Although I knew that the Library of Congress had resources available to me through the Internet, I really had no sense of what the materials were or how they can be used until we met the curators and they showed off pieces [from] their collections." Some of the Fellows made return trips to the divi-

Linda J. White

Media specialists Laurie Williams of Evanston, Ill., and Margaret Lincoln of Battle Creek, Mich., review primary sources.

Linda J. White

Teacher Robert Spear of Evansville, Ind., Rep. John Hostettler (R-Ind.) and Deputy Librarian Donald Scott at the Fellows farewell luncheon

sions during their free time, locating materials to supplement their classroom activities and the lessons plans they were creating during their time in Washington.

Throughout the week, teachers and school media specialists worked in teams of two to design an original lesson plan, student activity or unit that uses materials from the American Memory collections. Supported by Library of Congress staff as well as "coaches" and "facilitators" who had been participants in program in previous years, these educators honed their technical and analytical skills to enable them to use primary sources more effectively. During the school year that follows, the Fellows will refine and test their lessons with students and colleagues. This spring these "road-tested" lessons will be returned to the Library for publication on the Learning Page at **memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/guide.html**.

As the week progressed, the Fellows participated in workshops on online searching, analyzing primary sources, designing curriculum with primary sources and a wide range of other topics. These hands-on activities provided educators with different strategies and methods for using primary sources and an opportunity to experience this process as their students might. Workshops were participatory and collaborative, requiring Fellows to work with a wide variety of individuals, materials and collections.

Recognizing that training is a process that must be supported, the work of the institute is extended through online collaboration and discussion groups that continue throughout the year. "Graduating" Fellows are expected to help train others, both in their school communities and throughout the nation at workshops, conferences and other professional gatherings. As the enthusiasm mounted throughout the week, the task of outreach seemed a natural extension to many.

Noting that institute staff "put the out in educational outreach," one Fellow commented that this will be her "guiding principle once ... it is time to disseminate the work of the Library of Congress to teachers who have not been as privileged as we to come here."

The educators participating in the Institute left with many new ideas and new motivation for teaching:

"This has been the richest educational experience in my 16 years of teaching. I know that, long after this week is over, what I accomplished and learned this week will enrich my teaching and the lives of my students," said one participant.

The 25 two-person teams selected for the year 2000 American Memory Fellows Program came from 23 states—as far as Hawaii and as close as Fairfax, Va. They represent both public and private schools, large and small, in metropolitan, suburban and rural communities. The 25 teams selected were chosen from a pool of more than 140 team applications. For their efforts in exploring the roles that digital libraries can play in improving humanities teaching and learning, American Memory Fellows can earn three graduate credits from the University of Virginia, through the Curry School of Education's Center for Technology and Teacher Education.

The American Memory Fellows Program seeks to develop a nationwide community of practicing educators who will help others understand the nature of primary source materials and how they can both enrich the curriculum and draw students—even sometimes reluctant learners—into the learning process. The program now numbers 200 educators from 43 states, including the District of Columbia. This fellowship of practice is tied together through an online listserv where "each one teaches one" through sharing experiences about teaching and learning with primary sources. ◆

Ms. Veccia is head of user services for the National Digital Library Program.

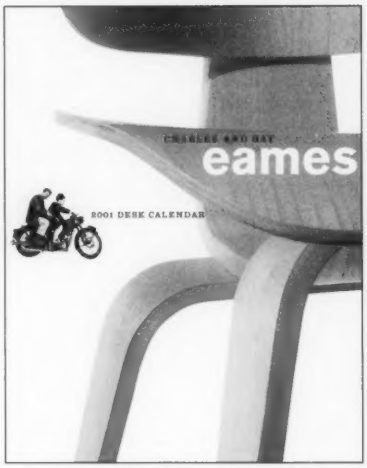
Linda J. White

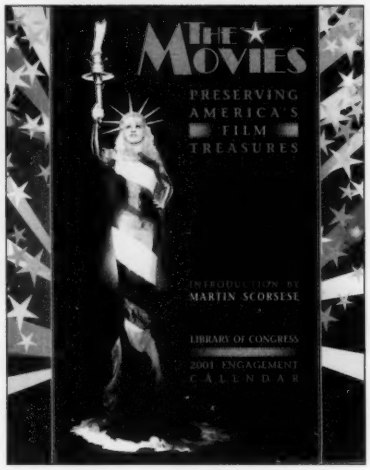
Linda Thompson and Mary Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colo., use the American Memory Web site.

Counting the Days

New Calendars for 2001 Available

The Library of Congress has recently published 10 calendars for 2001. *Charles and Ray Eames: 2001 Desk Calendar; The Movies: Preserving America's Film Treasures; The Civil War; Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native Americans; Classical Music; Shakespeare's Realm; American Military Aircraft of World War II; David Roberts: Travels in Egypt and the Holy Land;* and *Women Who Dare* feature the Library's unique and diverse collections.





Calendars from the Library for 2001 include *Charles and Ray Eames: 2001 Desk Calendar* and *The Movies: Preserving America's Film Treasures.* These desk calendars feature a rich collection of images from the Library's collections and are available from booksellers and from the Library of Congress Sales Shop.

Charles and Ray Eames: 2001 Desk Calendar, $16.95 (published in association with the Eames Office and Harry N. Abrams)

Based on the major Library exhibition and accompanying book, *The Work of Charles and Ray Eames: A Legacy of Invention,* published by Harry N. Abrams in 1997, this calendar celebrates the creative output of these visionary 20th century designers known and loved for their classic modern furniture, architecture, films, toys, exhibitions and art. From the prize-winning chairs designed by Charles Eames and Eero Saarinen for the 1940 "Organic Design in Home Furnishings" competition at the Museum of Modern Art to images from their 1977 film "Powers of Ten: A Film Dealing with the Relative Size of Things in the Universe and the Effect of Adding Another Zero," nearly 40 years of their design genius is depicted throughout the calendar, and in a special fold-out time line.

The Movies: Preserving America's Film Treasures (desk), $13.95

America's rich motion-picture heritage is celebrated in this calendar, featuring films drawn from those selected by the Librarian of Congress for the National Film Registry. Each day of the year provides another fascinating fact about films, actors and creators of cinema. The calendar includes an introduction by film director Martin Scorcese, as well as still photos, frame enlargements and lobby cards from 53 movies, each with a full caption. From "The Great Train Robbery" (1903), which provided a blueprint for countless other Western films, to "Bladerunner" (1982), a futuristic film depicting Los Angeles in 2019, the calendar chronicles nearly a century of filmmaking.

The Civil War (wall), $13.95

This calendar draws on the Library's unparalleled Civil War collections for more than 40 images, notations of important daily events and excerpts from eyewitness accounts both Union and Confederate to provide a telling glimpse of a defining episode in U.S. history.

Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native Americans (wall), $12.95 (published in association with Pomegranate Communications, Inc.)

During his lifetime, Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952) took more than 40,000 photographs for his 20-volume work, *The North American Indian. Reproductions* in this calendar are from first- generation Curtis photoprints and photogravure volumes in the Library's collections. Also included are descriptions of tribal culture and history and important events in Native American history, from Curtis's research supplemented by recent scholarship.

Classical Music (wall), $13.95

From Bellini to Copland, this calendar features a montage of more than 30 rare photographs and reproductions, select artifacts and memorabilia drawn from the Library's vast musical collections. These encompass manuscripts, books, periodicals and printed matter dating from the Middle Ages to the present. Notable quotations, birth dates and music-related facts are provided for each day of the year.

Shakespeare's Realm (wall), $13.95

The Library's collections provide a wide and revealing window on the dramatic and visual interpretation of Shakespeare's works from the 18th through 20th centuries in England, the United States, Germany, France and elsewhere. Engravings and color illustrations, cartoons, theatrical posters, set and costume designs and photographs demonstrate the extraordinary

popularity of the great poet-playwright. The calendar pulls all these threads together, with a lively interweaving of images, quotes and historical context.

***American Military Aircraft of World War II* (wall), $13.95**

This calendar pays tribute to the famous U.S. aircraft of World War II in 24 images, depicting planes from the B-17 and B-25 bombers to the remarkable P-51 fighter and the Grumman Hellcat. Historical notations in the calendar for significant air events track the course of World War II in the air.

***David Roberts: Travels in Egypt and the Holy Land* (wall), $13.95**

Reproduced as lithographs in volumes published in the 1840s, artist David Roberts's images made his fortune and changed the way Europeans saw the Near East. Selected lithographs are reproduced in the book *David Roberts: Travels in Egypt and the Holy Land* and as illustrations for each month of the year in this large-format wall calendar.

***Women Who Dare* (wall), $13.95**

In fields ranging from nuclear science to aeronautics, in activism or in astronomy, the 12 extraordinary women profiled in photographs and brief biographies in this calendar have made important contributions in areas traditionally dominated by men. Each day of the year notes the birthday of a daring woman or milestone in the history of female achievement.

***Women Who Dare* (desk), $13.95**

This eighth edition of a calendar celebrating the lives, struggles, achievements and enterprise of women in a wide array of endeavors features 53 explorers, scientists, activists, artists, writers, designers and others who made unique contributions to the world. Daily notations of birth dates and other anniversaries important to women's history suggest a distinctive, and too often hidden, story of human inspiration.

The calendars were published in association with Pomegranate Communications Inc., unless otherwise noted. They are available from booksellers and from the Library of Congress Sales Shop (credit card orders: 202:707-0204). ◆

FLICC Awards Recognize Outstanding Federal Libraries, Librarians, Technicians

To honor the many innovative ways federal libraries, librarians and library technicians are fulfilling the information demands of government, business, research, scholarly communities and the American public, the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) announces its third annual series of national awards for federal librarianship in fiscal year 2000.

FLICC fosters excellence in federal library and information services through interagency cooperation and provides guidance and direction for the Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK). Created in 1965 and headquartered at the Library of Congress, FLICC also makes recommendations on federal library and information policies, programs and procedures to federal agencies and to others concerned with libraries and information centers.

The 200 award winners will be honored for their contributions to federal library and information service at the annual FLICC Forum on Federal Information Policies in Washington, D.C., in March 2001. To further recognize these outstanding individuals and programs, a plaque engraved with their names and the names of previous and subsequent winners will be on permanent display in the FLICC offices at the Library of Congress. Nominations are being accepted for these awards:

Federal Library/Information Center of the Year

This award commends the library or information center's outstanding, innovative and sustained achievements during fiscal year 2000 in fulfilling its organization's mission, fostering innovation in its services and meeting the needs of its users. All federal libraries and information centers that have not previously received this award are eligible. Intense competition and information centers that have not previously received this award are eligible. Intense competition in 1999 resulted in a tie for this award between the Los Alamos National Laboratory Research Library and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Library.

Federal Librarian of the Year

This award honors professional achievement and active and innovative leadership in the promotion and development of library and information services during fiscal year 2000. The nominee must be a federal employee and a practicing librarian in a federal library or information center. Marion Jerri Knihnicki, formerly library director of the U.S. Army Transportation School, was named 1999 Federal Librarian of the Year.

Federal Library Technician of the Year

This award recognizes the achievements of a federal library technician during fiscal year 2000 for exceptional technical competency and flexibility under changing work conditions. The nominee must be a federal employee and a practicing paraprofessional or library technician in a federal library or information center. In 1999, the Federal Library Technician of the Year was Rosette M. Risell of the Ruth H. Hooker Research Library, Naval Research Laboratory.

To obtain nomination materials, visit the Awards Working Group Section of the FLICC Web site (**www.loc.gov/flicc/wg/wg-award.html**); write to FLICC, c/o Library of Congress, LA-217, 101 Independence Avenue S.E., Washington , DC 20540-4935; call (202) 707-4800; fax (202) 707-4825; or send e-mail to fliccfpe@loc.gov. The nomination packet includes the nomination form, selection criteria and a list of needed supporting materials. **All completed nominations must be postmarked no later than Nov. 15, 2000.** ◆

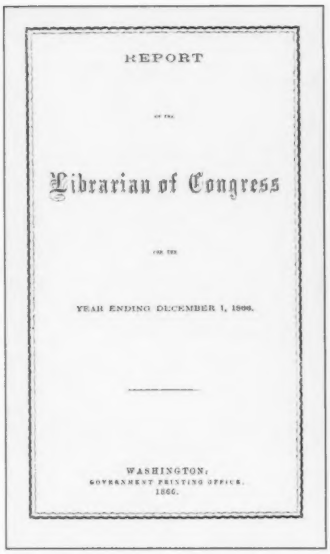
Bicentennial Background

The Library's *Annual Report*

By its nature, the Library's *Annual Report* is the most "definitive" Library of Congress publication. Because its reporting year corresponds to the government fiscal year, beginning on Oct. 1 and concluding on Sept. 30, the Library of Congress *Annual Report* covering the Bicentennial year of 2000 will not be published until 2001. The newly published *Annual Report* for 1999 is of special interest for another reason, however: its size (8½-by-11 inches) and length (180 pages) are similar to the large-format, historically-oriented reports published between 1901 and 1988.

Since the first printed report in 1866, the Library's *Annual Reports* have reflected the goals of the officer in charge of the institution, the Librarian of Congress. For example, arguments (actually pleas) for a separate Library of Congress building dominated the reports of Ainsworth Rand Spofford (1864-1897), and Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam (1899-1939) felt his 40 *Annual Reports* so thoroughly described his goals and accomplishments that he had no reason to write a separate autobiography.

A selective sampling of the *Annual Reports* reveals how they have changed over the years to reflect a changing institution.


REPORT

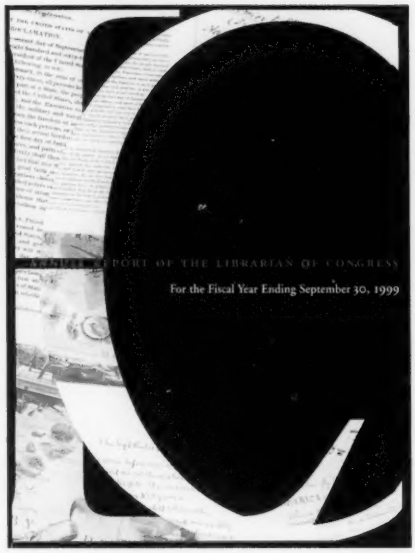
OF THE

Librarian of Congress

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 1, 1866.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1866.


REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

For the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1999

From Ainsworth Spofford's five-page 1866 *Annual Report* to James Billington's 180-page volume for 1999, the Library's *Annual Reports* have reflected the goals of each Librarian of Congress.

1861 and 1863

Two lengthy handwritten "annual reports" are in the Library's Archives in the Manuscript Division; the first is dated Dec. 16, 1861, and the second, Jan. 7, 1863. Both are critical of the Library's current condition, and the second includes many specific proposals for improvement. Although the first is unsigned and the second is signed by Librarian of Congress John G. Stephenson (1861-1864), this writer believes that both were written by Assistant Librarian Spofford, who joined the Library's small staff in September 1861.

1866

The first printed report, only five pages long (pictured above left), was prepared by Librarian Spofford "in compliance with the instructions of the Joint Committee of both houses of Congress on the Library" and is published in paperbound form. In this brief document, Spofford established a pattern that he used, with few variations, in his next 30 *Annual Reports*. Each is between five and 11 pages in length and states the Library's needs and accomplishments succinctly and in a positive manner. In 1869 the report's subtitle changes from "Condition of the Library" to "The Progress of the Library." The dominating theme in most of Spofford's reports is the need for space for the growing collections (the Library was in the Capitol until 1897).

1875

Spofford tells Congress that the Library has exhausted all shelf space and that books "from sheer force of necessity, being piled on the floor in all directions" throughout the Capitol building. Unless Congress takes quick action on a new Library building, its Librarian soon will be placed "in the unhappy predicament of presiding over the greatest chaos in America."

1897

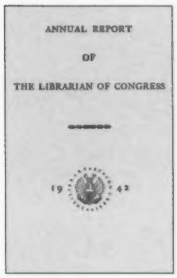
Librarian of Congress John Russell Young (1897-99), in his first report, presents a thorough, 51-page description that provides details about the Library's move from the Capitol into its own building and the implementation of the new (effective July 1, 1897) reorganization and expansion. It also is the first *Annual Report* that is hardbound and published as a congressional document.

1901

Librarian Herbert Putnam (1899-1939) looks ahead in this formidable, 380-page historical document. Because the Library's future opportunities, he feels, "appear in its constitutional relations, its present and developing equipment, its organization, the character of the material which it now has, and its resources for increase," he summarizes the "present facts" regarding each in an illustrated 180-page "Part II" or "Manual." In addition to valuable historical data, Part II includes the most detailed description of the Library's collections put together up to that time.

1940

Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish (1939-1944) presents Congress with the most thorough and the longest (555 pages) *Annual Report* in the Library's history. MacLeish's first report as Librarian is concerned with 1) the condition of the Library when he took office on Oct. 1, 1939, 2) the needs of the Library, and 3) "action taken and plans prepared to meet these needs." The collections are evaluated regarding strengths and weaknesses. The Librarian emphasizes that Congress has made the Library "a people's library of reference," and, in this spirit, he presents a comprehensive statement of the Library's acquisitions policies ("The Canons of Selection") and of its research objectives ("The Canons of Service."). The paperbound version of MacLeish's 1942 report is pictured at left.



1945

Librarian Luther Evans (1945-1953) increases the physical size of the Library's *Annual Report* from 6 by 9 inches to 7 by 10¾ inches.

1946

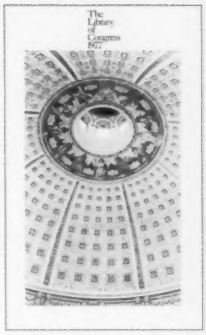
Librarian Evans uses his 1946 *Annual Report* to respond to Congress's doubts about the Library's national role, including, as a 227-page first chapter, David C. Mearns's classic history of the Library, *The Story Up to Now.*

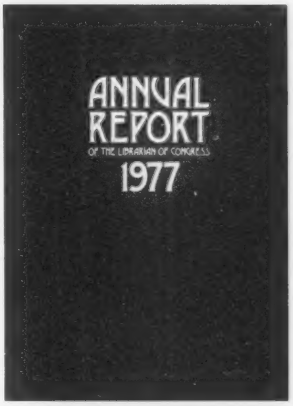
1967

In a departure from previous formats and to mark the 70th anniversary of the opening of the Jefferson (or "Main") building in 1897 (top left), the *Annual Report* design is keyed to the building's architecture and art and features quotations about the building from Librarian Spofford and Herbert Small's *Handbook of the New Library of Congress* (1897).

1973

Illustrations on the cover and throughout the report depict cranes on the construction site of the new James Madison Memorial Building (top left), which opened in 1980.

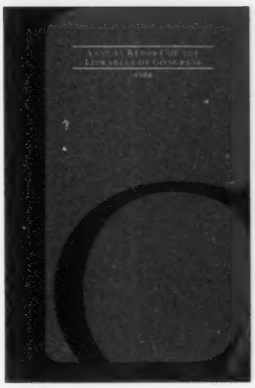




Covers of the 1967 and 1973 reports (top); the two versions of the 1977 edition (right); and the 1988 report (below) show the evolution of both the form and the function of the Library's *Annual Report* over a 21-year period.

1977

Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin's *Annual Reports*, beginning in 1977 and continuing through 1986, are issued in two versions: a 32-page, illustrated, paperbound report in a 6-by-9-inch format and aimed at a "popular" audience, and a lengthier, hardbound report in an 8-by-10-inch format.



1988

The 85-page report (right), the second presented by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington (1987-present) is issued in one version only: a 6-by-9-inch paperback. A Library of Congress Special Announcement explained that it "differs in several ways from *Annual Reports* of previous years." It is more compact, lists and tables (formerly appendixes) have been integrated into the text, and it is organized "in thematic sections rather than departmental chapters." It is being distributed "more widely throughout the Library than has been customary."

1995

With the return of departmental chapters and the addition of historical documents such as the Librarian's testimony before Congress, the *Annual Report* doubles in page size, from 96 pages in 1994 to 174 pages. ◆

Mr. Cole is director of the Center for the Book and co-chair of the Bicentennial Steering Committee.

Swann Fellows

Foundation Announces Award, Applications

The Caroline and Erwin Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon, administered by the Library of Congress, announces the selection of Chloe S. Carroll-Burke, a Ph.D. candidate in history from the University of Michigan, to receive its 2000-2001 Swann Foundation Fellowship. Ms. Carroll-Burke's dissertation, *Germs, Genes and Dissent: Images of Radicalism and Disease in the Construction of American National Identity, 1886-1927* explores images of illness and health in the United States between the 1880s and the 1920s, focusing on political cartoons and motion pictures. She examines the role they played in the movement to restrict immigration, limit political dissent and improve public health.

Under the terms of the fellowship, Ms. Carroll-Burke is required to make use of the Library's collections, be in residence for at least two weeks during the award period and deliver a public lecture on her work-in-progress.

The overall quality of submissions so impressed the Swann Foundation Board's Fellowship Committee that they decided to award an additional stipend to Amelia Rauser, an assistant professor at Skidmore College, to complete her monograph, *Liberty and Identity in British Political Prints, 1763-1793.*

The Caroline and Erwin Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon is now accepting applications for its graduate fellowship for the 2001-2002 academic year. The Swann Foundation awards one fellowship annually (with a stipend of $15,000) to assist continuing scholarly research and writing projects in the field of caricature and cartoon. Completed applications are due Feb. 15, 2001, and notification will occur in spring 2001. The fellowship covers the 2001-2002 academic year.

To be eligible, one must be a candidate for an M.A. or Ph.D. degree in a university in the United States, Canada or Mexico and working toward the completion of a dissertation or thesis for that degree, or be engaged in postgraduate research within three years of receiving an M.A. or a Ph.D. from an institution in one of those countries.

Although research must be in the field of caricature and cartoon, there is no limit on the place or time period covered. Since the foundation encourages research in a variety of academic disciplines, there is no restriction upon the university department where this work is being done, provided the subject pertains to caricature or cartoon art.

New York advertising executive Erwin Swann (1906-1973) established the Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon in 1967. An avid collector, Swann assembled a large group of original drawings by 400 artists, spanning two centuries, which his estate bequeathed to the Library of Congress in two installments in 1974 and 1977.

The foundation's support of research and academic publication is carried out in part through a program of fellowships. Applicants are invited to write to the foundation, with a statement of qualifications, needs and a budget. These grants are intended to assist ongoing research and writing projects in the specific areas of interest to the Foundation. The Caroline and Erwin Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon, now administered by the Library, is overseen by an advisory board composed of scholars, collectors, cartoonists and Library of Congress staff members. Its activities support the study, interpretation, preservation and appreciation of original works of humorous and satiric art by graphic artists from around the world.

More information is available through the Foundation's Web site: **www.loc.gov/rr/print/swann/swannhome.html**, via e-mail: swann@loc.gov, or by calling the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress at (202) 707-9115. ◆

Larica Perry

Cartoonist's Daughter Visits 'Blondie' Exhibition

Jeanne Young O'Neil, daughter of cartoonist Chic Young, visited the "Blondie Gets Married" exhibition on Friday, Sept. 1. It was the first time since donating her father's work to the Library that O'Neil had seen the exhibition that she helped Library staff plan. The exhibition contained 150 examples of Young's work and closed Sept 16; an online version of the exhibition can be seen at www.loc.gov/exhibits. ◆

New from NLS

Fourth Edition of Braille Transcribing Manual Available

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) of the Library of Congress announces the fourth edition of the *Instruction Manual for Braille Transcribing*.

This version of the manual was developed under the leadership of Constance Risjord, a literary braille transcriber, former member of the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) literary technical committee and past chair of the National Braille Association (NBA) literary technical committee; John Wilkinson, NLS literary braille adviser; and Mary Lou Stark, head of the NLS Braille Development Section. More than 40 transcribers, peer reviewers, computer specialists, educators and editors contributed to the project.

The braille instructional manual is designed for use in the correspondence course in English braille transcribing conducted by the National Library Service and by instructors of similar braille classes in locations across the United States. The course is intended to familiarize students with the braille system, with braille contractions and their usage and with the rules of braille transcribing set forth by BANA and published in English Braille American Edition, which became the authorized braille code for the United States in 1959.

The original plan for the manual was to modify slightly the 1984 edition to reflect code changes adopted in 1987 and 1991, but the need for more drastic revision emerged as the project progressed. In the new edition, explanations have been expanded and many simulated braille examples added; drills and exercises have been updated and increased; and lessons have been modified to facilitate the smooth progress of the course.

Braille is a system of raised dots that represent letters of the alphabet, numbers, punctuation and other symbols, some of which may stand for groups of frequently occurring letters. Braille may be embossed on paper or read by means of computer-connected refreshable braille output devices, which present the raised dots on a keyboard-like apparatus.

There are several levels of braille: in Grade 1 braille, words are spelled out letter by letter; in Grade 2, a system of contractions streamlines the presentation significantly. Grade 3 is more highly contracted still and, like shorthand, often used for note-taking. Other braille codes are specialized for particular areas of interest, such as music, mathematics and scientific usage. The system was originated by a 19th Frenchman, Louis Braille, and has developed internationally to a high level of sophistication.

Persons interested in enrolling in the braille transcription course or wishing to obtain further information should contact the Braille Development Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, at (800) 424-8567. ◆

UK Records Expand International Union Catalog

Margaret Bennett, chief Executive of the National Library for the Blind (NLB) in Stockport, England, and Frank Kurt Cylke, director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) of Library of Congress, have announced the addition of more than 30,000 catalog records from NLB to the Library of Congress's *International Union Catalog of Braille and Audio Materials*. NLB is committed to making all books listed available to users of the *International Union Catalog* through interlibrary loan or sale.

"Receiving these records has been extremely gratifying," said Robert Axtell, head of the NLS Bibliographic Control Section. "The British have an outstanding collection of tactile materials."

Records include materials in braille, Moon Type (an embossed format based on the standard English alphabet), large print and electronic text books as well as tactile maps. Catalog users will also be able to locate unique materials, such as a series of guidebooks created specifically for blind visitors to English cathedrals.

The largest braille lending library in the United Kingdom and one of Britain's largest braille producers, the National Library for the Blind has become the most recent contributor to the growing *International Union Catalog*, which now holds records representing some 21.4 million copies of more than 370,000 books and magazines from collections in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland and New Zealand. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Library of Congress is a free national library program of braille and recorded materials established by an act of Congress in 1931 and administered through a nationwide network of cooperating libraries. In 1999, more than 22 million books and magazines were circulated to a readership that exceeds 764,000 individuals.

The *International Union Catalog* is intended to serve as a tool for direct access by United States readers and for interlibrary loan as well as to reduce the duplication of effort among producers of books in special formats throughout the world.

For further information contact: Robert E. Fistick, Head, Publications and Media Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1291 Taylor Street N.W., Washington, DC 20542; telephone: (202) 707-9279; fax: (202) 707-0712; email: rfis@loc.gov. ◆

Herblock's History

Political Cartoon Exhibition Opens Oct. 17

HERBLOCK

"Herblock's History: Political Cartoons from the Crash to the Millennium," a major exhibition featuring the work of political cartoonist Herbert Block, will be on display in the North and South Galleries of the Library's Great Hall from Oct. 17, 2000, through Feb. 17, 2001. The exhibition celebrates the recent gift to the Library of more than 100 original drawings by the artist whose career began in 1929. His caricatures of 12 American presidents—from Hoover to Clinton—are featured. The exhibition includes cartoons portraying memorable public figures and events from the past eight decades, including World War II, the Cold War, Vietnam, Watergate, the Reagan years and the Clinton administration.

BY HARRY L. KATZ

Born in Chicago on Oct. 13, 1909, Herbert Block grew up in a family where art, history and politics really mattered. His father, an accomplished chemist, also had a talent for writing and cartooning, contributing to such turn-of-the-20th century humor magazines as *Life, Puck* and *Judge*. He supported his son's early studies at the Art Institute of Chicago. He "showed me something about drawing," he said. His father also worked as a reporter for the *Chicago Record;* and his older brother, Bill, was a reporter on the *Chicago Tribune* and later the *Chicago Sun.* During high school, Mr. Block drew cartoons and wrote a weekly column for the school newspaper. From his earliest years, he prepared for a career as a journalist.

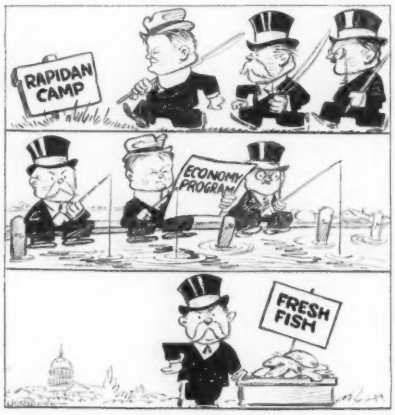
After graduation from high school, he worked briefly as a police reporter for the *Chicago City News Bureau.* He also wrote on topical subjects for a contributors' column in the *Tribune.* Pen names were common then and his father suggested combining two names into one, and "Herblock" was born. Enrolling at Lake Forest College in Illinois, he majored in English and Political Science. His association with a professor who had worked for the Secretariat of the League of Nations furthered his interest in international affairs. Near the end of his sophomore year, he applied for a job at the *Chicago Daily News,* and was given the opportunity to replace an editorial cartoonist who was leaving. The job worked so well that it ended his academic career.

Just 19 years old in 1929, Herblock joined the major leagues of newspaper cartoonists. Among these were veteran *Chicago Tribune* cartoonists who had not long before generously taken time to look at his school paper efforts, discuss them with him, and give him originals of their drawings. Among these established cartoonists were Carey Orr, Gaar Williams and the much-loved and highly respected John T. McCutcheon, a Chicago institution. Mr. Block was a particular fan of "Ding" Darling of the *New York Herald Tribune,* whose cartoon opinions were characterized by humor and vitality. Others were Edmund Duffy of the *Baltimore Sun,* whose crayon drawings were striking, and *Chicago News* colleague and front-page cartoonist, Vaughn Shoemaker, whose drawings were noted for their clean pen lines. Drawing upon them all, he refined his own style that, to this day, remains concise and compelling.

Early in 1933, as Franklin Delano Roosevelt took office amid economic devastation, Mr. Block left the *Chicago News,* and was hired as the only editorial cartoonist for the Newspaper Enterprise Association (NEA), a Scripps-Howard feature service headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio.

"The Cleveland job was a whole new ball game," wrote Mr. Block in his memoirs." His *Chicago News* cartoons had been syndicated nationally but now reached many more papers. His commentary grew sharper and more prescient through the 1930s, responding to widespread unemployment and poverty in America, the concurrent rise of fascism in Europe and communist tyranny in the Soviet Union.

The Depression politicized Mr. Block. Sheltered from economic hardships by his steady income, he observed the suffering around him and used his editorial panel as a vehicle for progressive reform. He admired Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal policies and recalled that "during the early days of the New Deal, I did get to



"Well, Everything Helps," from 1930 or 1931, is one of Herblock's early works featuring President Hoover doing his part during the Depression; "Light! More Light!—Goethe's Last Words," ca. 1935, comments on the effect of Nazism on Germany prior to World War II.

Subjects of Herblock's pen include atomic war (1949); Sen. Joseph McCarthy and President Dwight Eisenhower (1954); and lynchings in a piece titled "Poplarville, Mississippi, U.S.A., 1959."

see what government could do. My feelings are best expressed in a statement by a Republican President, Abraham Lincoln, that the object of government is to do for a people what they need to have done but cannot do at all, or cannot do as well for themselves."

Mr. Block came into his own during the Depression. Domestically, he stirred controversy with powerful images attacking the volatile oratory of such American demagogues as Father Coughlin and Huey Long. Largely supportive of New Deal policies, he nonetheless questioned President Roosevelt's efforts in some areas, notably an unsuccessful attempt in 1937 to increase the number of Supreme Court justices. In foreign affairs he hit his stride, warning of the threats to peace posed by fascism in Europe.

He created derisive portrayals of military dictators Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini and Francisco Franco, all scheming and dreaming of conquests and empires. He brought their activities to the notice of a public and politicians who, after the disillusionment that followed World War I, had turned inward to isolationism. Targeting dictatorships, he used symbols to carry his message: a sharpened Soviet sickle poised to execute political prisoners or a Nazi cap extinguishing the lamp of German civilization.

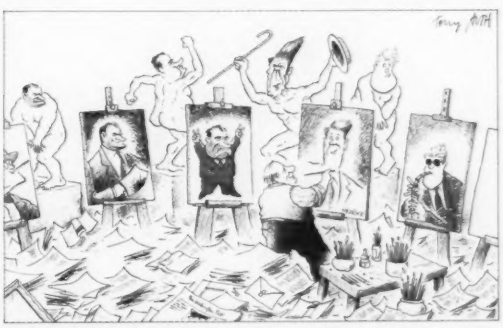
An early advocate of aid to the allies resisting Nazi aggression, Mr. Block was in favor of measures to prepare America for what was becoming a great world struggle. He exposed Nazi activities, giving them graphic form and visual power. He drew metaphors for the resilience of the human spirit, the inhumanity of war and the duplicity of dictators, finding heroes among innocents and victims, and taking to task villainous politicians. By 1941, with Britain under siege by the Nazis and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor still on the horizon, his cartoons took aim at the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis.

Fred Ferguson, president of NEA, opposed what he called the cartoonist's "interventionism," and what the cartoonist called "anti-isolationism." Ferguson summoned him to New York in spring 1942 to discuss their differences. "My life has been full of fortunate coincidences," Mr. Block said, for even as he sat in the New York office awaiting the disagreeable face-off, he received the news he had won his first Pulitzer Prize, vaulting him into national prominence and leaving his flummoxed publisher speechless.

His 1942 Pulitzer Prize, based on cartoons of 1941, vindicated the cartoonist's stance and solidified his reputation as one of the country's foremost political commentators. Early in 1943, he was drafted into the Army at the age of 33. He produced cartoons and articles and edited a "clipsheet" that was distributed throughout the Army, until he left the service late in 1945.

Hired as editorial cartoonist by *The Washington Post*, he moved to Washington in 1946. He has remained in that position ever since, drawing daily cartoons from the nation's capital for more than half a century. Katharine Graham wrote recently, "The extraordinary quality of Herb's eye, his insight and comments immediately stood out. When the *Post* was struggling for its existence, Herb was one of its major assets, as he has been throughout his 50 years here. The *Post* and Herblock are forever intertwined. If the *Post* is his forum, he helped create it. And he has been its shining light."

In Washington, he has achieved a rare freedom from editorial control, sharing preliminary sketches with trusted office colleagues before selecting and creating a final cartoon for publication. He and the *Post* were in agreement on the excesses of the "anti-communist era" and the damage



Herblock's fellow editorial cartoonists have paid tribute to him in a series of caricatures, including this one by Tony Auth.

caused by the reckless opportunism of McCarthy. A strong believer in civil liberties, he directed cartoons against the House Committee on Un-American Activities from its earliest days under Congressman Dies in the 1930s until its expiration decades later. Despite the motives of some individual committee members, he held to the view that there was something wrong with a group of congressmen deciding what (and who) was "un-American."

Later, during the Vietnam War, he came more and more to oppose the American government's policy, and his cartoons ran counter to the newspaper's editorial position. Numerous editors have attempted unsuccessfully over the years to influence or alter his cartoons, suggesting he voice a different opinion. Mr. Block has invariably demurred, standing by his work and upholding his now legendary reputation for editorial independence. A thoughtful journalist and gifted cartoonist, he is universally admired for his integrity. Recently Mrs. Graham wrote of him, "Herb fought for and earned a unique position at the paper: one of complete independence of anybody and anything."

Herblock's longevity is due in part to the journalistic passion inspired by his father and older brothers. Unlike many cartoonists, he chooses to work in his office, adjacent to the newsroom, rather than drawing at home or in an isolated studio. He takes full advantage of the proximity to expert verification of facts and the latest news from Washington and around the globe.

When his drawing goes to press, it is his own, without question. Through the decades, he has remained true to certain issues and principals: supporting civil rights measures, gun control, campaign finance reform, funding for education and democracy for residents for the District of Columbia, among other issues. "Take one issue at a time and one administration at a time and deal with it the way you see it," is how he describes his approach.

Raised in what he says might now be called "secular humanism," he takes a dim view of politicians who see religiosity as essential to public service. His longtime assistant, Jean Rickard, suggests that his parents instilled in him a strong sense of right and wrong, the confidence to express his views openly and the courage to stand up for what is right. For example, on the issue of racism, which he began addressing immediately after World War II (in advance of virtually all American cartoonists), he notes "I never had those feelings growing up. My father and mother felt that you should simply be a good citizen and think about the other guy."

Mr. Block has been thinking about "the other guy" throughout his career. For more than 70 years, through his cartoons, he has chronicled the best and worst America has to offer, from the depths of the Great Depression to the new millennium. No editorial cartoon-

Herblock's pen has found its mark on police abuses during civil rights marches (1965); President Richard Nixon (1974); President Jimmy Carter and Sen. Ted Kennedy (1979); Presidents George Bush and Ronald Reagan (1990); and President Bill Clinton (1998).

ist in American history, not even Thomas Nast, has made a more lasting impression on the nation than Mr. Block. His influence has been enormous, both on his profession and the general public, although he modestly eschews such praise with anecdotes. One such story involved a comment overheard during the 1954 Army-McCarthy hearings. Walter Winchell said he had come upon Senator McCarthy shaving and complaining that he had to shave twice a day now "because of that guy [Herblock] and his cartoons." Apparently his caricatures of the senator as an unshaven, belligerent Neanderthal found their mark. Asked if he felt he played a role in checking McCarthy's rise to power, the cartoonist quietly responded, "I sure tried to." Richard Nixon expressed a similar reaction to the cartoons, saying at one point that he had to "erase the Herblock image."

Humor has been one of Mr. Block's greatest assets, drawing people in, encouraging them to read the cartoon and consider his opinions. Laughter warms the coldest heart and lends perspective to serious issues and events. "I enjoy humor and comedy," he says, "and like to get fun into the work." Humor is an important vehicle for delivering a message, making "it a little easier for the medicine to go down."

Mr. Block's cartoons may never cure cancer or the common cold, but for the better part of a century they have helped ward off the ill effects of war, bigotry, economic opportunism, political arrogance and social injustice. What more could we ask of one man? ◆

Mr. Katz, a curator in the Library's Prints and Photographs Division, is the curator of the Herblock exhibition.

Conservation Corner

Preserving Original Herblock

BY MARK ROOSA AND HOLLY KRUEGER

The extraordinary career of cartoonist Herbert Block (Herblock) spans seven decades. Although Mr. Block has been a presence on the American scene with his daily editorial cartoons for the better part of the 20th century, exhibitions of his original drawings are exceedingly rare.

To prepare more than 100 drawings for the exhibition, professionals in the Library's Conservation Division were called upon to examine and treat the drawings, all of which came directly to the Library from the artist himself. What was revealed from this intensive effort about Mr. Block's technique is interesting. In addition to being stylistically consistent throughout his career, Mr. Block's drawing technique and choice of materials have also remained fairly constant. In the selection of drawings received by the Library, the drawings are nearly always executed on a commercially available paper with a 3-D pattern imposed on its surface. This pattern, commonly called coquille, is designed to catch dry, powdery media such as that used by Mr. Block.

The artist's choice of drawing media has also remained fairly consistent. Mr. Block generally begins a drawing with a faint pencil sketch on which he builds a final image. Graphite media (pencil) is the most abundant material used, with details for figure outlines strengthened with a black ink (presumably india ink) applied with a brush, pen or both. The graphite is applied very loosely and defines shapes and adds shading. In only one drawing does Mr. Block employ the transparent shading film Zip-a-Tone used by so many other cartoonists to save time on the tedious task of shading. Opaque white correction fluid is used not only to cover errors but also as another media to define details. A complicated system of applying several layers of media on top of one another to create a special effect is employed on some of the drawings.

Marita Clance

Kaare Chaffee, a conservator for the Library, consolidates layers of media to stabilize drawings for the Herblock exhibition.

The challenges presented in conserving the drawings were related to their construction not their past use. Because they had been in the sole possession of the artist since their creation, the usual kinds of damage associated with poor framing, handling and exhibition practices were not present. Of main concern were issues surrounding the still fresh and extremely friable graphite and the complicated build-up of media layers. For example, on a number of drawings, the white correction fluid was cracking and falling off the paper. Treatment to resolve this problem involved a close inspection of the entire surface of a drawing under magnification and consolidation of areas that were in danger of falling off. Consolidation involves flowing an appropriate adhesive into the cracked areas and lightly pressing to ensure contact. This is an exacting procedure that must be done with great skill and patience.

A critical part of the drawings' preservation lies in reducing the risk of future damage. Because the graphite media is so easily smudged, the drawings will be treated in the same way as fragile pastel drawings. They will be hinged into archival quality mats so that their surfaces are protected from direct contact. Once in their proper conservation housing, they should remain as "untouched" as they were when they left Mr. Block's studio. ◆

Mr. Roosa is the director for Preservation. Ms. Krueger is senior paper conservator in the Conservation Division.

Notes of the Founding Fathers

Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789

BY EVELYN SINCLAIR

The North American delegates to the early Congresses, meeting first in Philadelphia in August 1774, wrote a lot, and roughly 10 percent of their letters and other written records have survived into the 21st century.

No one is more familiar with the 23,000 surviving documents than Paul H. Smith, editor of *Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789.* These 18th century manuscripts are like snapshots. They are pictures of the formative days of the United States and of those who fought to build a nation and shape a government. They offer an unparalleled opportunity to study these pictures of a developing republic.

The Philadelphia State House, in an engraving from 1778

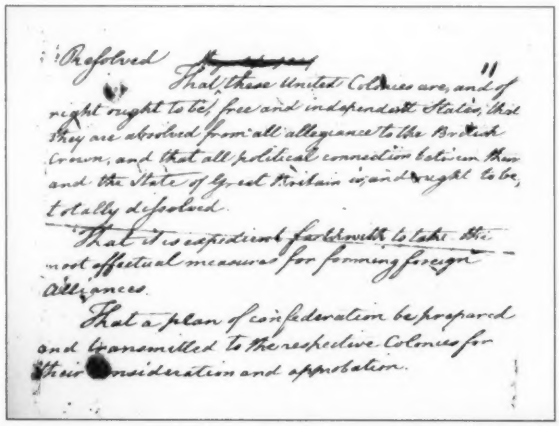
About 20 percent of these surviving documents are housed in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, another 20 percent at the National Archives. The remainder are scattered far and wide—in archives, historical societies, universities, colleges and libraries in the 13 original states, in the West and the Midwest, in the homes of private collectors, on the shelves of dealers and autograph hunters, in Europe, or even farther away.

When the papers of the Continental Congress were transferred from the State Department to the Library of Congress in 1903 (before the National Archives existed) and the first of the 34 volumes of the *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, edited by Worthington D. Ford et al., was published by the Library of Congress in 1904, historians began to look carefully at the records of the activities of the early Congresses to see what they could learn about the beginnings of the nation. These official records were very spare, however, and to augment them, the historical research arm of the Carnegie Institution planned an edition of the letters and the reports that delegates in Congress had written back to their states about congressional business. The project to publish delegate letters to flesh out the journals began in 1906 and became Edmund C. Burnett's eight-volume edition *Letters of Members of the Continental Congress* (Washington: Carnegie Institution, 1921-36). Without benefit of photocopiers and with the interruption of a world war, it took Burnett three decades to produce these eight volumes of carefully selected and abridged materials.

Today, however, some 23,000 letters and other documents are published in their entirety in the 26 volumes of *Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789.* Mr. Smith and the editors working with him accomplished this feat at the rate of about one volume every 11 months, publishing the first in 1976 and the last, a cumulative index, this year. Each clothbound volume has illustrations, is indexed and is printed on acid-free paper. Volume 26 also provides a list, with dates of attendance, of the 344 delegates representing the 13 states who attended Congress during the 15 years when the colonists decided to declare their independence from Great Britain, fought for their rights and freedom, managed to achieve a confederation, composed and ratified the Constitution of the United States and elected their first president.

Some of these delegates are well known today—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin. But others are not and have remained in greater or lesser obscurity: John Dickinson of Pennsylvania, Samuel Chase of Maryland, John Witherspoon of New Jersey, Lewis Morris of New York, Oliver Wolcott of Connecticut, John Langdon of New Hampshire, Nicholas Van Dyke of Delaware, William Few of Georgia, or Thomas Bee of South Carolina. But these men, known or unknown, became the daily companions of the editors who sought out their letters in the repositories where they lay buried and sometimes forgotten.

Uncovering existing documents proved to be an exciting pursuit, each discovery leading to others, and each potentially shedding new light on what had been understood about the past. Essays supporting a strong central government, written anony-



Resolved That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be, totally dissolved.

That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign alliances.

That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation.

The draft Resolution of Independence by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia

mously in 1783 and attributed to James Madison, for instance, were discovered to be, in fact, written by John Francis Mercer. The editors began to realize that early historians had based many of their conclusions on the recollections of old men who reminisced about the years between the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the ratification of Constitution but distorted many of the hard facts. Even 50 years after the signing of the Declaration, by the anniversary year of 1826, the timing and details of critical events had become unclear. The importance of contemporary written documents was reinforced with every new letter the *Letters* editors read.

Joining Mr. Smith in this intensive research effort were, over the years, assistant editors Gerard W. Gawalt, Rosemary Fry Plakas, Eugene R. Sheridan and Ronald M. Gephart. These historians found the Library an ideal place to work. Over the course of two centuries, many private individuals contributed to enriching its holdings on the American Revolution, until these collections had become unsurpassed. The enormous collections of national and local history in the Library's general collections were only minutes away from the *Letters* project offices, and the expertise of colleagues both inside and outside the Library, offered freely and generously in support of the edition, proved invaluable.

The editorial team not only unearthed letters from previously unknown sources but also perfected an efficient mode of annotating the documents. They dated and identified the material, noted the location of the original document and supplied bibliographic references, but they resisted the temptation to go beyond giving basic explanations and useful information to comment on the relevance of the document or to place it in a larger historical context. Telling the larger story was left to the American historians and other interested readers who pick up these 26 volumes and make use of the published letters. Robert P. Hay, reviewing volume 25 of *Letters of Delegates* in the Winter-Spring 2000 issue of *Ohio History,* says that "the editorial work on this project has been exemplary indeed," and praises the project as "one of the most noteworthy and useful series to have appeared in the past 100 years of historical editing and publishing in America."

Charles Thomson, secretary of the Continental Congress from 1774 until the federal government came to power in 1789

Just as the anniversary year of 1826 provoked recollections of the Declaration of Independence, it was the upcoming bicentennial of the American Revolution in 1976 that launched the anniversary programs at the Library of Congress that included the *Letters of Delegates* project, one of many publishing projects the Library undertook at the time. While doing the research for *Manuscript Sources in the Library of Congress for Research on the American Revolution,* a guide compiled by John R. Sellers, et al. (Washington: Library of Congress, 1975), the staff of the American Revolution Bicentennial Office located so many delegate letters in the Manuscript Division that they first proposed production of a supplement to Burnett and then expanded their proposal to a complete new edition of 25 volumes. Ten of the nation's leading historians serving as the Library of Congress American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Committee immediately supported the idea and recommended seeking a grant from a major foundation. The Ford Foundation provided $500,000 toward an entirely new edition of delegate letters, and the project was launched in 1970 under Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford, Assistant Librarian of Congress Elizabeth Hamer Kegan and Coordinator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Program James H. Hutson. The first two volumes were published in 1976 under director of publishing Sarah L. Wallace. As government publications, all the volumes have been distributed by the U.S. Government Printing Office to depository libraries in every congressional district, including many major university and research libraries.

The project continued under the administrations of the two succeeding Librarians of Congress, Daniel J. Boorstin and James H. Billington, the final volume coming out in this, the Library's Bicentennial year. A digital version of the 25 text volumes of *Letters of Delegates,* a fully searchable database, is available on CD-ROM (Summerfield, Fla.: Historical Database, 1998) (for Windows 3.1 or higher). Currently the National Digital Library Law Library Project is preparing an Internet version for the Library's American Memory Web site. Already available on the "Century of Lawmaking" site (**www.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwjc.html**) are the *Journals of the Continental Congress.*

Thus, either in print or electronically, the surviving 23,000 letters have been published for those who want to look through the widest window possible to study and understand the thoughts and actions of the men (their families and associates) and the Congress that lie at the heart of the nation's origins. To quote Robert P. Hay once again, "What an incredible tale we have seen unfolding, and how much there was—and is—to be learned! For years and years and years to come, we will be trying to get our minds around all that these volumes contain."

Volumes of *Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1776-1789,* 26 vols. (Washington: Library of Congress, 1976-2000), are available from the U.S. Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. Fax orders to 202 512-2250. Include the Government Printing Office stock number (for each volume) and the ISBN 0-8444-0177-3 (for the set) with the order. For more ordering information, visit the Government Printing Office bookstore online at **bookstore.gpo.gov**. Some volumes may be available through the Library of Congress Retail Marketing Office, 101 Independence Avenue S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4985; telephone (202) 707-0204; fax (202) 707-4047. ◆

Ms. Sinclair is a writer-editor in the Publishing Office. Ronald M. Gephart, Manuscript Division, also contributed to this article.

Genius of Liberty

Authors Examine Jefferson's Legacy

BY JOHN MARTIN

Does Thomas Jefferson deserve to be called a "genius of liberty" in light of new scholarship on the conflict between his professed ideals and his own life? Scholars Joseph Ellis and Annette Gordon-Reed debated this question during a "Books & Beyond" panel discussion sponsored by the Library's Center for the Book on July 25. The two authors are contributors to *Thomas Jefferson: Genius of Liberty* (Viking Studio, 2000), the companion volume to the Library's Bicentennial exhibition about Jefferson, which closes on Nov. 16.

Gerard W. Gawalt of the Manuscript Division, the Library's Jefferson specialist and curator of the Library's Jefferson exhibition, introduced the speakers. Mr. Gawalt said that the exhibition and the companion book have "a primary and an interpretive aspect." The primary aspect is reflected in Jefferson's written legacy. The interpretive aspect attempts to use those writings to enter Jefferson's life and try to assess his impact on his times.

Ms. Gordon-Reed said that the goal of her essay was to better understand the meaning of "genius" as applied to Jefferson's life. "We should not let the idea of a genius overwhelm the man himself," she cautioned. The third president was also a Southern slaveholder whose own life cannot be entirely reconciled with his public ideals.

"What Jefferson most needs today," she declared, "is a rescue from symbolism. He is not a plaster saint." A professor of law at New York Law School, Ms. Gordon-Reed is the author of *Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings: An American Controversy* (University of Virginia Press, 1997), and is currently working on a history of the Hemings family to be published by W.W. Norton.

Ms. Gordon-Reed went on to explain that in the 18th century the word "genius" did not have the rarefied meaning it does today. Rather, "genius" connoted one who possessed a natural talent or lively imagination. If Jefferson was a genius, she suggested, it is because his imagination led him to "annunciate ideas that have universal application." Despite Jefferson's limitations as a man, as a thinker he was a pioneer.

John Y. Cole

Scholars Joseph Ellis and Annette Gordon-Reed are shown the book *Thomas Jefferson: Genius of Liberty* by Director of Publishing Ralph Eubanks and Gerard Gawalt of the Manuscript Division.

"He posed the right questions at the right time," she said. "Even without finding answers, he paved the way." While left behind in Jefferson's day, she observed that American minorities have taken Jeffersonian ideals of liberty and equality to heart, expanding their meaning in ways Jefferson himself never believed possible.

Mr. Ellis also qualified the use of the word "genius" in the book's subtitle and commented that Jefferson himself would probably object to being enshrined in this manner. "If not a genius of liberty, Thomas Jefferson was the great rhetorician of American freedom," he concluded.. In contrast to other Founding Fathers, for whom the past was "the lamp of experience," Jefferson saw his life's work as an effort to "remove the dead hand of the past" from the American political experience. A professor of history at Mount Holyoke College, Mr. Ellis is the author of *American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson* (Vintage Press, 1996), which won the National Book Award, and of *Founding Brothers: Stories from the Early Republic*, which will be published this fall by Alfred A. Knopf.

According to Mr. Ellis, Jefferson was not a genius like Einstein or Aristotle. Instead, America's third president was essentially a derivative thinker whose intellect was remarkable for its range rather than its depth.

The panelists took questions from the audience, some of whom objected to what they perceived as "revisionist" interpretations of Jefferson's life and impact. Mr. Ellis related an anecdote in which he was similarly challenged.

"I have been accused of being a 'mere pigeon on the great statue of Thomas Jefferson' by those who prefer the myth," he said. "That I am a pigeon is not important. What is important is that we not see Jefferson as a statue."

Thomas Jefferson: Genius of Liberty (Viking Studio, 2000) includes an introduction by historian Garry Wills titled "Jefferson's Genius" and contemporary commentary by Joseph J. Ellis, Annette Gordon-Reed, Pauline Maier, Charles A. Miller and Peter S. Onuf. The book is available for $35 in major bookstores and from the Library of Congress Sales Shops (202-707-0204). The Library's Bicentennial exhibition on Jefferson may be viewed in the Thomas Jefferson Building through Nov. 16. ◆

Mr. Martin is an examiner in the U.S. Copyright Office.

Blair Family Treasures

Historic Papers Added to Library's Cache

BY GAIL FINEBERG

Richard C. Hollyday II of Vero Beach, Fla., reached into a cardboard box on a table in the Library office of Diane Kresh, director of Public Service Collections, in July and removed neatly organized, labeled packets of ink-inscribed brown letters addressed to his Blair family ancestors.

"These letters are from [Kentucky statesman] Henry Clay to Francis Preston Blair, my great-great-grandfather," Mr. Hollyday said. "Here are some of my great-grandfather Montgomery Blair's papers pertaining to the Dred Scott case; he was Scott's lawyer and took the case all the way to the Supreme Court, before Justice Roger B. Taney.

"Here are some letters to Montgomery Blair from General Sherman, Lew Wallace (a Civil War general and author of the novel, *Ben-Hur*), my Great Uncle Frank Blair—he was a Civil War general—Sen. Charles Sumner, Sen. Thomas Benton, and here's one from James Buchanan to Mrs. Blair," Mr. Hollyday continued.

For some 170 years, these letters, a diary belonging to Francis Preston Blair and other historical treasures had been handed down from one generation of the Blair family to another.

However, this spring, Mr. Hollyday and his sister Edith decided it was time to give their trove to the Library. Not only did the Library already have some 12,000 Blair items on deposit, but his niece, the Library's exhibition conservator Louise K. "Rikki" Condon, had promised that she personally would see to the preservation and care of their gifts.

Said American history specialist Marvin Kranz, of the Manuscript Division, "This will be a marvelous addendum to the Blair papers."

Mr. Hollyday retrieved a file holding more letters, among them correspondence from Gen. Winfield Scott, commanding general of the Union Army at the beginning of the Civil War; Stephen A. Douglas, who campaigned against Lincoln; John C. Fremont, nominated in 1856 as the first Republican candidate for president; Martin van Buren, Andrew Jackson's successor to the presidency; John Dix, a Civil War general; Andrew Jackson Jr., the adopted son of Andrew Jackson; and Silas Wright, a senator from New York and Van Buren's campaign manager.

"These are some of the most interesting and important people on the stage of U.S. history between 1820 and the Civil War years," Mr. Kranz said.

As Mr. Kranz described the historical significance of the Blairs and those who wrote to them, familiar Montgomery County place names took on life and new meaning.

"Time stands still at the Library of Congress," remarked Ms. Condon, who as the Library's exhibition conservator has worked in the Conservation Division since 1976.

Francis Preston Blair (1791-1876)

A feisty editor from Kentucky, Francis Preston Blair was invited to Washington by President Andrew Jackson for the purpose of starting a party organ for the Democrats. He founded *The Globe*, as well as *The Congressional Globe*—forerunner of *The Congressional Record*. He and his partner, John Rives, contracted for Congress's printing business.

Described by Rives as 85 pounds of bones and 22 pounds of "gristle, nerve and brain," Blair became a trusted confidant of Jackson's and served in his unofficial "Kitchen Cabinet."

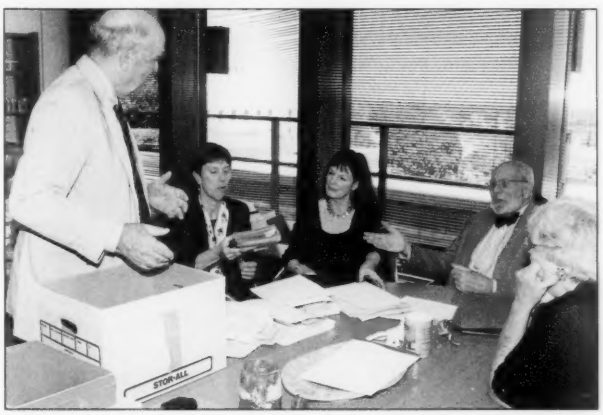
Mr. Kranz said the Clay letters to Francis Blair are sure to be interesting because of the animosity between Jacksonian Democrats, of whom Blair was one, and Clay during the 1824 presidential election.

That year, Jackson won the popular vote, but because four candidates split the electoral votes and no one received a majority, the three names with the highest totals were sent on to the House of Representatives, where each state had one vote. Clay, who had been eliminated, then threw his support to Quincy Adams. As soon as he was elected, Adams appointed Clay secretary of state, which in those days was the pathway to the presidency, Mr. Kranz said. "So the Jacksonian Democrats accused Clay and Adams of making a 'corrupt bargain,' trading votes for the appointment."

Blair weathered Jackson's descent from power, maintained his lucrative printing business and remained active in politics, supporting Fremont's 1856 Republican nomination, even after he "retired" to his 20-room mansion, Silver Spring, built in 1844 on 1,000 wooded acres seven miles north of town. He aided Lincoln, offering the Union Army commission to Robert E. Lee on the president's behalf and crossing Confederate lines on at least one peace mission.

President Abraham

continued on page 253



Gail Fineberg

Blair family descendant Richard Hollyday (left) shows some historic family papers that he and his sister Edith Hollyday (far right) found in an attic. With them are Diane Kresh, director for public service collections; Louise Condon, Mr. Hollyday's niece; and Marvin Kranz, American history specialist in the Manuscript Division.

After the Cold War

Defense Department Official Delivers Keynote Address

BY GAIL FINEBERG AND JOHN MARTIN

Long-secret records made available recently from the military archives of Poland, Hungary and Romania will help scholars and historians write a new Cold War history from the perspective of the Communist side as well as that of the United States and its Western allies.

"We are now beginning the first truly retrospective examination of what happened during the Cold War," said Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Walter B. Slocombe during his keynote address during a two-day Conference on "Cold War Archives in the Decade of Openness," held at the Library June 28-29.

"History was written during the Cold War. The crucial change is that we can now examine the history of that period with a much broader range," Mr. Slocombe said. "The opening of records from the Communist side is a crucial aspect of that effort."

Soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Dr. Billington proposed that the Library and the Department of Defense organize a program to film rare books and manuscripts in the former Soviet Union. Subsequently, the Library and the Defense Department launched a project in Russia and Lithuania. In 1996 the Department of Defense expanded the project to microfilm military records and inventories in former Soviet-block countries, primarily from World War II and the early Cold War years. The governments of Poland, Hungary and Romania agreed to cooperate.

To date, the program has generated some 900 reels of microfilm. Records are selected for filming by mutual consent between the source archives and the Department of Defense and the Library. One copy of the processed microfilm, plus inventories of the records, are housed at the Library, where they are available to researchers in the European Division Reading Room. The East European archives retain both a positive and negative copy of the microfilm.

In response to a 1995 executive order, the Department of Defense has declassified 195 million pages of historical documents from the same era.

Walter Slocombe

Chief of Staff Jo Ann C. Jenkins introduced Slocombe during opening night ceremonies on June 28. The conference itself, which was sponsored by the Library and the Department of Defense, included presentations by Col. Andrzej Bartnik, director of Poland's Central Military Archives; Jolán Szijj, director of Hungary's War History Archives; and Col. Alexandru Osca, chief of Romania's Military Archives of the Ministry of National Defense. Other sessions featured scholars and archivists with specialties in the Cold War, Department of Defense representatives and area specialists from the Library's European Division.

In his address, Mr. Slocombe emphasized the importance of history in shaping policy and statecraft, and the vital dependence of history on primary source material, such as the documents in the new collection. He also evaluated the joint microfilm project in the larger context of changes that have occurred since the dissolution of the Soviet state.

The lessons of history, Mr. Slocombe said, are not just for academics and scholars; they also inform and guide policymakers and government leaders. "History is the ultimate judge and the ultimate teacher. No sooner had the Soviet flag been lowered than historians began reexamining history. For that reexamination, it was essential that historians and archivists seek access to the enormous archives behind the iron curtain."

Quoting historian John Louis Gaddis, Slocombe noted that the emergence of primary source material from the archives of the Soviet Union and its former allies will prompt a reconsideration of prior Cold War historiography, which, by necessity, was based almost exclusively on information available in the West.

Saying he would leave the interpretation of the Cold War to historians, Mr. Slocombe reviewed some changes in global politics and relations since the Soviet flag was lowered on Dec. 25, 1991. "The most important change is strategic," he said. "The greatest threat to our national security—war on a global scale against an adversary with nuclear weapons and aggressive global ambitions—has been all but eliminated."

The second major change, he said, "is that we no longer live in a world of clear ideological conflict."

However, conflict still exists. "The end of the Cold War has created its own challenges with threats that are no less real," he said, explaining that "security challenges" range from regional conflicts and ethnic hatred, which threaten to spread, to "growing dangers from weapons of mass destruction and terrorism."

"Without security against these threats, as well as against the classic threat of direct invasion, the promise of a new century free of the horrors of the last will prove hollow," Mr. Slocombe said.

The greatest threat to stability since the end of the Cold War has been the Balkans, the under secretary said. He noted that NATO made a choice it might not have made during the Cold War. "World attention focused on the humanitarian aspects of the conflict in Kosovo, on the brutality of ethnic cleansing and on the refugees forced

from their homes, a spectacle we had hoped had been banished in Europe. NATO chose to act, not only as a response to the obvious imperative to do what we can to redress violations of basic humanitarian standards," he said, but also to protect regional stability in Europe generally and Southern Europe in particular.

The lesson of history from the "approximate cause" of World War I was not to ignore conflict in remote places, Mr. Slocombe explained.

Such intervention requires coalitions. "That is why the United States—including the U.S. military—invests so much effort and energy in shaping a more stable international environment and in preventing sparks of instability from igniting into conflagrations—as well as in being ready, when fires do start, to douse them before they spread."

New coalitions being forged now were unimaginable 10 years ago, he said. For example, he said, Russia and the United States collaborated in Kosovo, Russian soldiers stood with American troops in Bosnia, and Russian officers carried out orders issued by U.S. commanders. Russians and Americans sat side by side at the NORAD command center in Cheyenne Mountain to guard against any misunderstanding between nuclear forces as the millennium changed. Presidents Clinton and Putin established a permanent monitoring station to avoid misunderstandings relating to missile and space activities.

Mr. Slocombe noted that two of the former Warsaw Pact countries collaborating with the United States in the Cold War Archives project, Poland and Hungary, are now members of NATO, and the third, Romania, has applied for membership.

Historians drawing on material being made available by this collaboration of archivists will write a "new" Cold War history that will shape another generation of policy makers, Mr. Slocombe said.

The Library and the Department of Defense gave special thanks to the archivists from Poland, Hungary and Romania, who spoke at one of the sessions. ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper. Mr. Martin is an examiner in the U.S. Copyright Office.*

Cold War Archives

Joint Conference Concludes 'Open House Project'

BY KENNETH NYIRADY

On June 28 and 29, the Library of Congress and the Department of Defense co-sponsored the conference "Cold War Archives in the Decade of Openness," the culmination of a four-year project, known as the "Open House Project," that brought microfilm of formerly classified records from the military archives of Hungary, Poland and Romania to the Library of Congress.

The conference, held at the Library, explored the contents of the microfilm, the state of the Central European archives represented at the conference and the activities of archives in the United States that focus exclusively on Cold War topics or have significant collections dealing with the Cold War.

The first session on June 28 was devoted to descriptions and analyses of the microfilm that the Library has already received from the three Central European archives. The chair of the session, Alfred Goldberg, the historian of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, welcomed those in attendance, and briefly introduced the session and its speakers. Ronald Bachman, Polish area specialist in the Library's European Division, described the microfilm from the Polish Central Military Archives, a collection comprising 88 reels covering the period 1939-1968. Nearly 40 percent of the material dates from the World War II years and includes detailed reports on the early fighting throughout Poland, the regrouping of military forces in the East under Soviet control and the relationship of those forces to the Polish underground Home Army, especially during the Warsaw Uprising. About half of the collection covers the early postwar period through the mid-1950s, while about 10 percent concerns the years 1956-1968, including the tactical and logistical aspects of Poland's role in the invasion of Czechoslovakia. Also of interest are nine reels of inventories-finding aids included in the collection.

This writer, a reference librarian in the European Division, described the collection received from the War History Archives, in Budapest. The 173 reels acquired so far cover the period 1948 through 1954, or the early years of the Cold War. This material mirrors the turbulent developments within the Hungarian People's Army during that time, namely its rapid expansion and Sovietization, its complete refitting with Soviet-made equipment and the imposition of party control of the military. Of particular note are establishment tables for various years that show the structure, personnel and equipment within each unit of the army, as well as inventories and costs of armaments acquired from the Soviet Union. Not only are official documents from the high command represented, such as orders issued by the Ministry of Defense, but also reports generated by political officers within the ranks that show conditions experienced by the average soldier.

Grant Harris, reference specialist in the European Division, presented the final paper of the session, regarding the 642 reels received from the Romanian Military Archives. Most of this collection consists of the complete archives of the Romanian Commission for the Implementation of the Armistice, 1944-47, which was created to ensure Romanian compliance with the demands of the Allied Soviet High Commission. These archives detail restitution to the Soviet Union of its citizens, equipment and property, as well as territory; and they chronicle Soviet abuses, such as the illegal seizing of property and the transfer of Romanian, Hungarian, German and other non-Soviet citizens to the U.S.S.R. A smaller set (62 reels) of documents originates from the intelligence archives of the Romanian Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1944-1948. These report the activities of foreign embassies and missions in Romania, as well as accounts of interrogations of American airmen whose aircraft had been shot down. Another group of records (65 reels) documents the Soviet drive to bring the Romanian armed forces under its control.

Brig. Gen. John Sloan Brown, director of the U.S. Army Center of Military

History, chaired the first session of the second day, "Central European Military Archives in the Decade of Openness." This session featured Col. Andrzej Bartnik, director of Poland's Central Military Archives (Centralne Archiwum Wojskowe); Jolán Szijj, director of the Hungarian War History Archives (Hadtörténelmi Levéltár); and Col. Alexandru Osca, chief of the Romanian Military Archives (Arhivele Militarie ale Ministerului Apararii Nationale).

Col. Bartnik briefly described the activity of the Polish Central Military Archives (CMA) and set it against the background of Polish political and military history since the end of the Second World War. He enumerated themes in Cold War history that have emerged in research based on materials in the CMA—Soviet officers in the Polish army, political repression in the army during the postwar period, the economic burden on Polish society resulting from membership in the Warsaw Pact and the uses of the army in domestic interventions and in Czechoslovakia in 1968. He also listed the military agencies whose documents are to be found in the archives, including the National Defense Committee, which set military policy and oversaw its implementation. He admitted that the military documentation on the 1981 declaration of martial law is still protected by current secrecy restrictions, but noted that current efforts to liberalize the law on archives may expand access to materials from the 1970s and 1980s.

Ms. Szijj prefaced her remarks about issues currently facing the Hungarian War History Archives (WHA) by setting out a detailed history of the archives, noting that the institution's oldest document dates back to the 13th century. She then outlined the legislation affecting archival access today, including privacy restrictions that limit access to documents containing personal data. Ms. Szijj observed that although the number of researchers using the WHA is continually increasing, less than half are involved with research since 1945—the period of the Cold War—and most of these are working with military court records. In fact, she noted, the WHA receives many official requests from military courts or other organizations that deal with rehabilitation processes or actions for damages. Ms. Szijj also provided the titles of some of the WHA's recent publications over the past several years and spoke about the WHA's links with similar institutions in Austria, Romania and Slovakia.

The first part of Col. Osca's presentation dealt with two groups of individuals--those who use the Romanian Military Archives, many of whom were victims of the former communist regime but yet attempt to write objectively about that era; and Romanian archivists, who endeavor to better understand and adapt to their new role in a democratic society. Openness, he observed, was assisted by Law 16 for the National Archives of 1996, which declared archives to be not merely places of storage but rather centers that support research, and gave the Ministry of National Defense the right to operate its archives without outside interference. Col. Osca believed it was in the best interest of all archives, including military archives, not only to make material available to researchers, but also to process it and create finding aids. He mentioned that legislation is being considered that would permit release of any unclassified document regardless of the 30-year rule that currently restricts access to such material.

The audience at the afternoon session witnessed a panel discussion "Cold War Documentation Programs," chaired by Robert S. Litwak, director of the Division of International Studies at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Panelists were Mark Kramer, director of the Harvard Project on Cold War Studies at Harvard University; James G. Hershberg, associate professor of history and international affairs for the Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington University; Vojtech Mastny, coordinator of the Parallel History Project on NATO and the Warsaw Pact; Christian Ostermann, director of the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center; and John E. Haynes, 20th century political historian in the Manuscript Division.

Opening the discussion, Mark Kramer pointed out that the Harvard Project aimed not to collect archival documents but to sponsor scholarly publications based on documents held elsewhere. This the Harvard Project did through its publication *Journal of Cold War Studies* and various book series. In connection with the theme of the conference, and later echoed by other participants, he observed that much material about the Soviet military could be found in archives of the former non-Russian republics of the Soviet Union. For example, archives in Ukraine yield much documentation about the Warsaw Pact's 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia. The same held true for archival material held in the Baltic states concerning the 1980-81 crisis in Poland.

Vojtech Mastny told those assembled that the military aspect of the Cold War was little known as, until recently, military archives have been mostly inaccessible. He described the Parallel History Project on NATO and the Warsaw Pact, which actively seeks to locate, collect, analyze and interpret the growing numbers of recently declassified documents from NATO, the Warsaw Pact and their respective member states. Founded in 1996, the project represents a cooperative effort of institutes and archives in the United States and Europe. Concerning one category of documents, those of the Warsaw Pact, Mr. Mastny pointed out that although the foreign ministers of the member states signed an agreement in February 1991 to keep Pact documents inaccessible, one could actually examine these documents in Germany, the Czech Republic or Bulgaria, and that the other former Pact countries ought to declassify them as well.

Christian Ostermann spoke about the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Begun in 1991, this project aims to integrate new information based on previously inaccessible sources from the former Communist world with Western historiography of the Cold War, a literature traditionally based only on Western sources and what Sovietology could glean. Through its *Bulletin* and other publications, conferences and its encyclopedic Web site, the Project publicizes new findings concerning Cold War history. One such conference, cosponsored in November 1997 with the National Security Archive, and the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, brought together Poles, Americans and Russians who participated in the 1980-81 Solidarity crisis in Poland. Mr. Ostermann announced that upcoming conferences will consider the origins of détente and Latin America in the Cold War.

John Haynes spoke about the Library of Congress's recent and continuing acquisitions of Cold War-related archival material. This includes the papers of former Soviet general

Dmitrii Volkogonov and a microfilm edition of the papers of the Communist Party of the United States, consisting of about 500,000 pages, from the beginnings of the movement until 1944. An acquisition of particular note is the Comintern database and digital archive, which is being produced by the International Committee for the Computerization of the Comintern Archive (INCOMKA), of which the Library of Congress is a member, along with the national archival services of Germany, France, Spain and Switzerland, the Federal Archives Service of Russia and the International Council on Archives. The project will create a database for the entire Comintern archives (estimated at more than 20 million pages), and 1 million digital images of the most important and interesting documents in the archive.

James G. Hershberg spoke about the National Security Archive at George Washington University. This archive, which is not affiliated with the U.S. Government, contains declassified U.S. documents on national security that have been obtained through the Freedom of Information Act. According to Mr. Hershberg, the archive's interest and extensive publishing activity focus on many areas of the world and its collections include comprehensive microfiche on the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 and the Berlin crisis of 1958-1962. The archive, together with Chadwyk-Healey, has created the Digital National Security Archive, a database of more than 35,000 documents central to U.S. foreign and military policy since 1945.

Lively discussions concluded all three sessions on subjects such as the possibility of documents in the Hungarian, Polish and Romanian military archives dealing with the Greek Civil War, American POWs in Korea and Vietnam and defense attaché reporting from these two countries, the Soviet withdrawal from Central Europe in the early 1990s, and current access to documents in these archives.

The papers presented at the conference will be published in the book *The Open House Collection: Documents from the Military Archives of Former Soviet Warsaw Pact Countries in the Library of Congress*, edited by Frank N. Schubert, Office of Joint History, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; with a foreword by John Van Oudenaren, chief of the European Division.

Indexes to the microfilm that the Library has already received from the Hungarian, Polish and Romanian military archives can be found at the European Division on the Library's Web site, **www.loc.gov/rr/european/specproj.html**. ◆

Mr. Nyirady is a reference librarian in the Library's European Division.

Blair Treasures
continued from page 249

Lincoln was a frequent guest at Silver Spring, and on July 11, 1864, an uninvited guest camped there overnight on his way to Washington with Confederate troops. Only a barrel of whiskey at nearby Falkland, owned by Blair's son, Montgomery, came between Gen. Jubal Early's raiders and a weak Fort Stevens, according to family legend.

Montgomery Blair (1813-1883)

The son of Francis Preston, Montgomery Blair graduated from West Point in 1835, served the Army briefly and resigned to study law in St. Louis, Mo., with Thomas Hart Benton. He became a U.S. attorney for the state of Missouri, mayor of St. Louis, and judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

His St. Louis law practice included work for several railroads and his most famous client, Dred Scott, a slave whose master had moved with him to Missouri, then free territory. Scott tried to sue in federal court to establish his Missouri citizenship and freedom. Writing for the Supreme Court majority, Justice Taney ruled that a slave's status did not change with the territory he lived in. Taney also held that a slave was property; as chattel, Scott had no standing in federal court.

Montgomery Blair moved to Washington in 1852, established his family in Blair House, where his wife graciously entertained Washington's movers and shakers, and joined Lincoln's Cabinet as U.S. postmaster general in 1861. Described as the most learned man in Lincoln's Cabinet, he provided counsel to the president and reformed the Post Office, standardizing rates and service at a savings to the country.

With a moderate view toward reconstruction, Blair so agitated "radical" Republicans that Lincoln eventually asked him to resign.

Montgomery Blair rebuilt his Silver Spring area home, Falkland, which Early's raiders had burned. He became active in Maryland politics and practiced law with his son, Woodbury, who after his father's death in 1883 continued the practice with his brothers Gist and Montgomery Jr.

Included in the papers from the Blair family are some of Montgomery Blair's legal papers dealing with the Dred Scott case and papers relating to the old *Globe* newspaper.

Mr. Kranz said the people who wrote to Montgomery Blair are so important in American history that their letters are bound to be of interest to scholars. "The importance of the letters is up to scholars to determine," he added.

Still to come are plantation record books from Francis Preston Blair, who was a slaveholder, even though he supported Lincoln.

"That's the sort of material we'd love to get," Mr. Kranz said after Edith Hollyday remarked that they still had these records.

The main body of Blair papers came to the Library as gifts of the family, over periods from 1928 to 1955 and during 1967-69; other gifts and purchases came during 1973-74.

The latest donation came about because of the Condon-Blair connection.

"Rikki and I had worked together for years on exhibition materials," Mr. Kranz recalled. "One day she mentioned her mother was a descendent of the Blairs, and I asked if there were any papers still around. She said she'd ask her uncle."

Ms. Condon said these papers were discovered about 20 years ago in the attic of a Bedford Hills, N.Y., home occupied by her grandmother, Minna Blair Hollyday, Richard Hollyday's mother. Mr. Hollyday took an interest in them, sorted them, and consulted Condon about their care.

Ms. Condon said she is thrilled to be able to care for these papers at the Library. "The Blairs served the nation their whole lives and that's certainly something to be proud of," she said. "They gave so much to the country and I want people to know about them. It also means a lot to me to know these papers will be well preserved at the Library of Congress." ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library' staff newsletter. Adrianne Nash, an intern in* The Gazette *office, contributed to this report.*

News from the Center for the Book

Book and Library History Update

Gutenberg Anniversary
SHARP Conference 2000
3–8 July 2000 in Mainz, Germany

Book Historians Meet in Mainz

On July 3-8 in Mainz, Germany, more than 280 academics, librarians and students of book history participated in the International Gutenberg Conference, which joined the eighth annual meeting of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) with the first symposium of the associates of the Socrates Program of the European Union.

The host was the Gutenberg Institute for the History of the Book, which coordinated the conference with the citywide and yearlong 600th birthday of Johannes Gutenberg, the Western inventor of movable type and the printing press and the "man of the millennium." Conference sessions were held throughout the city of Mainz, which was honoring Gutenberg through historical exhibitions at the newly renovated Gutenberg Museum, the City Archives, the State Museum, the Cathedral and Diocesan Museum and the Museum of Natural History. Participants took time out from a full program (more than 130 papers presented in 46 panel sessions, plus three plenary sessions and three pre- conference sessions) for guided tours around the city and, on July 6, an all-day excursion to Eltville and the Abbey of Eberbach.

The Library of Congress was represented by Mary L. Elder of the Rare Book Team, Special Materials Cataloging Division, and John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, who, on July 3, with Ian Willison of the University of London, chaired an informal update of history of book projects around the world. Mr. Cole also is a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for SHARP 2001, which will be held in Richmond and Williamsburg, Va., on July 19-22 under the sponsorship of the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Center for the Book and the American Studies Program and the Swem Library of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.

SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF AUTHORSHIP, READING & PUBLISHING

Book History Handbook Published

A Handbook for the Study of Book History in the United States, by Ronald J. Zboray and Mary Saracino Zboray, has been published by the Library of Congress. Sponsored by the Center for the Book, the 155-page paperbound volume is an introduction for researchers to the literature and subject of book history.

In the first part of the book, the authors explain why the field of the history of the book is important and discuss its major concerns. Most of the book describes how to locate and use source material. It concludes with observations about the future of book history, an appendix describing important periodicals for book historians and a 52-page list of suggested readings.

Ronald J. Zboray is associate professor of history at Georgia State University, and Mary Saracino Zboray is a research associate at the same institution. Together they have published extensively about antebellum cultural history, including recent articles in many scholarly journals and essays in two collections, on Boston business history and on transcendentalism, published by the Massachusetts Historical Society. In 1998-99, the Zborays were Honorary Visiting Fellows at the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, while completing a book on the experience of reading in antebellum New England. The *Handbook* is the Center for the Book's second resource publication about book history. The first, *The History of Books: A Guide to Selected Resources in the Library of Congress* (1987), by Alice D. Schreyer, is out of print but available in many libraries.

A Handbook for the Study of Book History in the United States is available for $15 from Oak Knoll Press, 310 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720; telephone (302) 328-7232; toll-free (800) 996-2556; fax (302) 328-7274. It can be ordered online at **www.oakknoll.com/pressrel/handbook.html**.

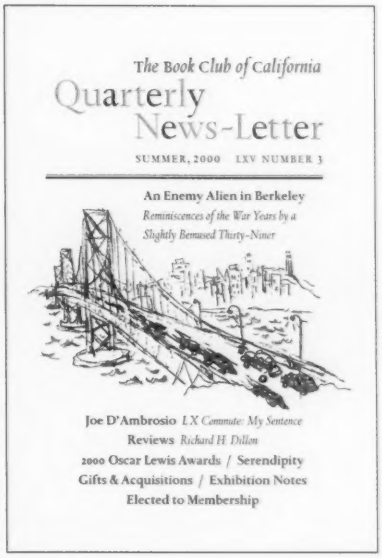
John Y. Cole

Johannes Gutenberg's statue in central Mainz is not far from the newly renovated Gutenberg Museum.

Two Book Club Newsletters Honor Library of Congress

CAXTONIAN

The Library of Congress at 200 looks to the future


The Book Club of California

Quarterly News-Letter

SUMMER, 2000 LXV NUMBER 3

An Enemy Alien in Berkeley

Reminiscences of the War Years by a Slightly Bemused Thirty-Niner

Joe D'Ambrosio *LX Commute: My Sentence*

Reviews *Richard H. Dillon*

2000 Oscar Lewis Awards / Serendipity

Gifts & Acquisitions / Exhibition Notes

Elected to Membership

The June 2000 issue of *Caxtonian*, the journal of the Caxton Club of Chicago, highlights the Library of Congress and its Bicentennial through articles by Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole ("The Library of Congress at 200 Looks to the Future"); University of Chicago Library curator of special collections Alice D. Schreyer ("Anniversary Tribute to the Library of Congress"); and a personal account of a visit to the Library's Main Reading Room (accompanied by a full-page photograph) by *Caxtonian* editor Robert Cotner. The summer 2000 issue of the Book Club of California's *Quarterly News-Letter* contains a favorable, lengthy review of a Library of Congress-sponsored book, *The Book in America*, by Richard W. Clement, published in 1996 by Fulcrum Publishers. The volume includes a foreword by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and an afterword by Mr. Cole. The reviewer, Richard H. Dillon, concludes with a tribute to the Center for the Book, noting that it was the center, which was created in 1977, that put the "new and welcome" interdisciplinary field of the history of the book "on the road."

Cyber LC

Cybercasts from *The* LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Book History on Cyber LC

Book and cultural historians are featured in two Center for the Book-sponsored events now available on Cyber LC (**www.loc.gov/cfbook/cyber-cfb.html**). On July 25 historians Joseph Ellis and Annette Gordon Reed, two of the contributors to *Thomas Jefferson: Genius of Liberty* (Viking Studio, 2000) discussed Jefferson in a "Books & Beyond" author presentation. Historian Gerard W. Gawalt of the Library's Manuscript Division moderated the program. The second event is the Bicentennial symposium "Poetry and the American People: Reading, Voice and Publication in the 19th and 20th Centuries" that took place on April 4. Participants in the all-day program, which was co-sponsored with several Library offices, included historians David D. Hall, Harvard University Divinity School; Barbara Sicherman, Trinity College; Joan Shelley Rubin, University of Rochester; and Kenneth Cmiel of the University of Iowa.

Library Historians to Convene on Oct. 23-26

Library historians from around the world will participate in the Library of Congress Bicentennial symposium "National Libraries of the World: Interpreting the Past, Shaping the Future," which will be held at the Library of Congress on Oct. 23-26.

The meeting has been designated "Library History Seminar X," continuing a series of seminars that takes place every five years under the sponsorship of the American Library Association's Library History Round Table and the journal, *Libraries & Culture*. ◆

Literacy
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the International Adult Literacy Survey, a 22-country initiative conducted between 1994 and 1998.

Benchmarking Adult Literacy in America presents 10 international indicators that allow readers to compare the literacy proficiency of Americans with that of other populations. Mr. Tuijnman discussed his research as well as the 10 tools and targets he suggests may be employed in a strategy for improving literacy in America. Four expert panelists presented their reactions to the presentation and the report and their views about its possible uses and implications. The panelists were: Patricia W. McNeil, assistant secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education; Daniel A. Wagner, director of the International Literacy Institute and the National Center on Adult Literacy at the University of Pennsylvania; Emily Vargas-Baron, deputy assistant administrator and director of the Center for Human Capacity Development at the U.S. Agency for International Development; and Wadi Haddad, director of Knowledge Enterprise Inc. and former deputy secretary of the World Bank. ◆

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